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LETTER DATED 14 SEPTEMBER 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CROATIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In accordance with the provisions of paragraph 5 of Security Council resolution 771 (1992) and paragraph 1 of Security Council resolution 780 (1992), I have the honour to submit, enclosed herewith, an addition to our earlier submissions of documents concerning war crimes on the territory of the former Yugoslavia.

The enclosed documents are describing war crimes and grave breaches of Geneva conventions committed by Serbian paramilitary forces in the United Nations Protected Areas on the territory of the Republic of Croatia.

I would be grateful if you would provide for the distribution of this letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mario NOBILO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

93-50490 (E) 200993 230993

Annex

WAR CRIMES AND GRAVE BREACHES OF GENEVA CONVENTIONS COMMITTED BY SERBIAN PARAMILITARY FORCES IN UNITED NATIONS PROTECTED AREAS (UNPAs) IN THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Report dated September 6, 1993

This report is based on the first-hand information and data (including medical documentation on victims of torture and a number of written eye-witness or survivor testimonies) collected by medical doctors - members of the following governmental and nongovernmental organizations in Croatia:

Department of Information & Research of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Croatia
Medical Center for Human Rights, School of Medicine University of Zagreb

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UNPROFOR SECTOR EAST (Vukovar area and Baranya)

UNPROFOR officially took control over Sector East on May 22, 1992.

I. FORCIBLE EXPULSION OF NON-SERBIAN CIVILIANS CONTINUES

As we have already documented in previous submissions to the Security Council, the forcible expulsion of Croats and other non-Serbian ethnic groups from Baranya and Vukovar area continues unabated inspite to the presence of UNPROFOR. One can mention only the recent example: on July 2, 1993 eight non-Serbian civilians (Croats and Ruthenes) were expelled from Ilok, Antin and Miklušević. They were transported to the territory controlled by Croatian government in a vehicles of UNPROFOR. Several days later, another group of 74 Croats and Slovaks were expelled from the village of Bapska near Vukovar. On the other hand, not a single displaced person of non-Serbian origin from that area managed to return to his home in the period from November 1991 to the present.

II. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON WAR CRIMES COMMITTED BY YUGOSLAV ARMY AND SERBIAN PARAMILITARY TROOPS IN VUKOVAR AREA DURING 1991.

1. VUKOVAR - VELEPROMET: After the occupation of Vukovar on November 18/19, 1991 Yugoslav Army and Serbian paramilitary troops committed horrible attrocities against the non-Serbian civilian population of the conquered city. Between 4,500 and 5,000 people from Vukovar are killed or missing; the cases of the mass grave at Ovčara and 2,642 still missing people from Vukovar are already well known to the United Nations and international community. However, Ovčara is just one of 11 large mass graves located in the area of Vukovar and a number of civilians were executed or forcefully disappeared within the town of Vukovar itself. "Velepromet", which for several days after the occupation of Vukovar served as a major collecting point for thousands of captured civilians (and their subsequent redistribution in a number of Serbian concentration camps), was also a key place of cruel torture, summary execution and forcible disappearance of hundreds of Vukovar citizens. That was a place of brutal rape, the most abominable tortures and bestial murders. During the past period, we managed to collect hundreds of written testimonies of survivors and ex-POWs who were detained at "Velepromet" during the last week of November 1991. We are now engaged in a process of detailed reconstruction of series of war crimes committed at Velepromet within this short period (November 18-25, 1991). Herewith we submit just two testimonies of survivors (see enclosed Testimonies VU-VP-603 and VU-VP-692) which clearly indicate the nature and extent of horrible attrocities commited by Yugoslav Army and Serbian paramilitaries at "Velepromet".

2. THE VILLAGE OF LOVAS: As we have already repeatedly reported, at least 71 Croatian civilians, inhabitants of Lovas, were executed by Yugoslav Army and Serbian paramilitary troops within two months after the occupation of their village (i.e. after the October 10, 1991). Especially dramatic was the case of death of 18 detained civilians who were forced at gun point to step right into the mine field (this case was also described in reports of Helsinki Watch, Amnesty International and Special Rapporteur Mr. Mazowiecki). Herewith we submit additional information on the village of Lovas (see enclosed Testimonies LOV-495, LOV-628, LOV-735 and LOV-832) clearly showing that forcible expulsions, torture and arbitrary executions of innocent and helpless civilians continued during 1992 and 1993, even in the presence of UNPROFOR.

3. THE VILLAGE OF DALJ: On August 1, 1991, Yugoslav Army and Serbian paramilitary forces occupied the villages of Dalj, Aljmaš and Erdut (municipality of Osijek) and executed a number of detained Croatian soldiers and civilians from these villages. For example, 25 dead bodies from Dalj were transported in Osijek hospital, numerous survivors testified that at least 18 more dead were buried in a mass grave on the Catholic cemetery in Dalj, and the number of missing persons from Dalj is still more than 300.

However, another large-scale massacre occurred in the village of Dalj during the last week of November 1991, after the fall of Vukovar. Namely, a number of captured Croatian civilians from Vukovar were transported and temporarily detained in the village of Dalj. There they were cruelly tortured and most of them were executed thereafter. Herewith we submit additional information on that war crime - see enclosed Testimony DALJ-797.

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UNPROFOR SECTOR WEST (Pakrac area)

UNPROFOR officially took control over the Sector West on March 1, 1992.

In spite of the presence of UNPROFOR, Serbian paramilitaries committed a number of crimes. The following examples just serve to illustrate this:

On October 8, 1992, Serbian paramilitaries ambushed and wounded 2 Croatian policemen (gun shot wounds) near the forest called Čukur in the vicinity of the village of Kusonje.

On October 10, 1992 Serbian paramilitaries opened a machine gun fire from the ambush on the civilian vehicle in the village of Branešci: one civilian was killed while 4 others were seriously wounded.

On February 18, 1993 Serbian paramilitaries ambushed and killed two Croatian civilians (Petar Sić and Robert Ivanović) who were driving home on their tractor. That happened in the immediate neighbourhood of the hospital in Pakrac.

On May 4, 1993 Serbian paramilitaries abducted two Croatian civilians in the area of Pakrački Vinogradi; Stjepan Picek is still in detention, while the dead and butchered body of Nenad Marjanović was returned to the Croatian side after almost 2 months of negotiations. Soon after that, Serbian paramilitaries ambushed a police car patrolling along the road Španovica- Grahovljani and wounded a Croatian policeman Davor Biruš.

On August 5, 1993 Serbian paramilitaries ambushed a Croatian police patrol on the road Dragović-Donji Grahovljani, about 2 km from the road Pakrac-Požega and just 2 km away from the control point of UNPROFOR. Four Croatian policemen were killed by machine gun fire (Renato Kalvi born 1970, Božidar Kop born 1967, Marko Jakšić born 1969 and Željko Kotriš born 1961) and other four were seriously wounded (Predrag Žigić born 1972, Ivica Gujaš born 1958, Željko Rukavina and Zdravko Vinić).

On August 12, 1993 Serbian paramilitaries ambushed and abducted two Croatian civilians, employees of "Croatian Foresting Enterprise" from Novska; it happened within the area controlled by UNPROFOR.

UNPROFOR SECTOR NORTH (Banija, Kordun and part of Lika)

UNPROFOR officially took control over the Sector North on July 2, 1992.

I. THE AREA OF SLUNJ

On November 7, 1992 Serbian paramilitaries killed Slavko Klobučar in front of his home in the village of Ladevac. He was killed by Chetnik Nikola Vukojević from Slušnica (who was allegedly later killed in action).

On February 22, 1993 Serbian paramilitaries killed another Croat civilian, Pavo Samardžija, in the village of Ladevac, while he was working in his homeyard.

In the period from February 17 until April 17, 1993 Serbian paramilitaries repeatedly raped and plundered two elderly Croatian women in the village of Gornji Popovac near Slunj - see enclosed Testimony SIL-878.

II. THE AREA OF SISAK AND KOSTAJNICA

On September 2, 1993 Serbian paramilitaries from the villages of Drljače and Brđani (municipality of Hrvatska Kostajnica) ambushed and killed by a sniper bullet Croatian civilian Stjepan Susić from the village of Sunjska Greda near Sunja while he was working on crops on his crop-field. The identification of the dead body and circumstances of death was performed by Croatian Police in the presence of UNPROFOR and EC Monitors.

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III. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON CRIMES COMMITTED IN THE SECTOR NORTH AFTER THE OCCUPATION BUT BEFORE THE UNPROFOR OFFICIALLY TOOK CONTROL OVER THE AREA

1. THE VILLAGE OF STRUGA NEAR DVOR: In July/August 1991, Serbian paramilitary units plundered and set ablase several villages inhabited predominantly or exclusively by Croats and situated along the Una River (the villages of Struga, Kozibrod, Unčani and Golubovac) at the road leading from Dvor na Uni to Hrvatska Kostajnica. As we already reported and documented by autopsy reports, at least 9 men (detained policemen and soldiers) were cruelly slaughtered on that occasion, but according to numerous testimonies of displaced persons from that area, the number of civilian victims was expected to be far greater. Herewith we submit an additional information on massacre of Croatian civilians in the village of Struga near the town of Dvor, committed by Serbian paramilitaries on July 26, 1991 - see enclosed Testimonies DVOR-781 and DVOR-806.

2. CIVILIAN MASSACRE IN THE VILLAGE OF JOŠEVICA: In the village of Joševica near Glina, Serbian paramilitaries executed 20 Croatian civilians, mostly women and children, in a single day. The victims belonged to the families of Kreštalica, Štajdohar, Škrinjar, Mudronja. Herewith we submit additional information on summary execution of those Croatian civilians from Joševica - see enclosed Testimony GLINA-965.

3. ARBITRARY KILLINGS OF CIVILIANS IN THE AREA OF GLINA: During the fall and winter 1991, Serbian paramilitary troops tortured and executed a number of Croatian civilians in the villages situated in the vicinity of the town of Glina (above mentioned case of Joševica is unfortunately just one item on the long list of these crimes). Herewith we submit additional information on Croatian civilians executed in the villages of Mala Solina and Velika Solina (4 elderly women and 1 man) - for details see enclosed Testimony GLINA-820.

4. SUMMARY EXECUTION OF 23 CROATIAN DETAINEES IN PETRINJA: On September 16, 1991 Serbian paramilitary troops and Yugoslav Army units from Petrinja ambushed and captured a group of 23 Croatian soldiers. They were maltreated and tortured for several hours and after that executed by a firing squad and buried in a mass grave. Herewith we submit additional information on that summary execution of 23 Croatian detainees - see enclosed Testimony PETR-550.

5. ARBITRARY KILLINGS OF CIVILIANS IN THE AREA OF SLUNJ: In January 1992, Serbian paramilitaries summary executed 9 Croatian civilians in the village of Donji Lađevac - seven victims were members of the family Radočaj who were murdered in their home and then set on fire together with the house; and 2 victims were Muslim women (witnesses do not know their names) who were then buried in the catholic cemetery near Slunj. Furthermore, Serbian paramilitaries executed 7 Croatian civilians from the village of Furjan - inhabitants of the village of Lađevac were forced to collect their dead bodies, transport them to Lađevac and bury them there. Moreover, in June 1992, Chetnik Mile Pašić murdered Croatian civilian Dane Bogović in the village of Lađevac.

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UNPROFOR SECTOR SOUTH (Knin area and Zadar hinterland)

UNPROFOR officially took control over the Sector South on July 1, 1992.

Serbian paramilitaries forcibly expelled hundreds of Croats from their homes in the area of Knin and Benkovac during the first half of 1993. This was already reported by us, and amply documented by UNPROFOR, EC Monitoring Mission and UNHCR. Furthermore, Serbian paramilitaries continue with arbitrary killings and summary executions of innocent civilians in spite of the presence of UNPROFOR. The following example from the village of Medvida near Obrovac clearly illustrates this:

The massacre of the 9 Croatian civilians in the village of Medvida

On February 9, 1993 in the afternoon Serbian paramilitaries (four local Serbs from the neighbouring village of Skokna) cruelly executed 9 Croatian civilians, all members of the family Erstić, in the village of Medvida, hamlet Erstići (municipality of Obrovac) and after that thoroughly plundered their home. The victims were: Dušan Erstić (born 1937) and his wife Draginja Erstić (born 1942); Petar-Janko Erstić (born 1944), his wife Jeka Erstić (born 1947), and their daughter Mira Erstić (born 1976); Ivan Erstić (born 1920); Stoja Erstić (born 1930); and Šimica Erstić (born 1905). Six victims were women - one of them was 18- years-old girl. For further details, see enclosed Testimonies MED-627 and MED-753.

DIMH
Division of Information and Research
Ministry of Health of the Republic of Croatia

TESTIMONY VU - VP - 603

(a Croatian woman, born on 1949, displaced person from Vukovar, eye-witness of tortures and mass killing on "Velepromet")

I arrived in Olajnica on August 14, 1991, when the JNA left their the barracks. My daughter and husband accompanied me to the Territorial Defence headquarters and there I asked Mr Merčep how I could help. He put me in charge of shelters in Olajnica. For some time I procured medicines and food (while there still was food in shops and warehouses) and distributed it to the people. Then Tomislav Pap put me in charge of the food storehouse, I had to control the distribution, each person received equal portions. A few men and women helped me: Jelić Drago and his wife Marija, baker Nikola baked bread but in the end he stayed with Chetniks. Ana Molnar, Marija Mala were with me. Some women cooked while there still was water and food. The water was brought ba a water truck driven by K.Z. and two other men.
Later I supplied shelters with water. Kačić Igor (15 years old) and his sister Silvija, Štimac Danijela and some other children helped me. When the more fierce attacks began I did not allow them to help me. My daughter and husband (Violeta and Đuro) were in the strongholds. I knew what was happening in Vukovar.
On October 10, 1991 my husband was seriously wounded by a grenade. He spent one night in the hospital and the following day I spoke to dr. Bosanac and dr. Njavro. Dr Bosanac told me that I could not take my husband away from the hospital and to take care of him in the shelter. I knew that there were many Chetniks in the hospital. Then dr. Njavro advised me to take him to the shelter if I had adequate place for him.
When I wanted to take Zdravko Baketa and the guardsman named Krešo from the hospital, I asked for sweat-suits for them because their uniforms were torn and the sweat-suits were for wounded patients, dr Bosanac told me that she could not give the sweat-suit to each man. While our boys were smoking leaves of tea, dr. Bosanac gave cigarettes to Serbs.
On November 17, at 5 a.m., my daughter Violeta arrived, she was covered with blood and I thought that she was wounded. She took me out and told me: "If you have any suspicious documents or a member card of the HDZ - burn it. Because there is nothing left of Vukovar." Tomo Pap arrived too and he told me to go immediately to the Territorial Defence. There I was told that the Chetniks were close to the port and that our boys would go break out. As I was a woman they thought that I would not be suspicious and the Chetniks would not notice me, so I had to come back to the shelter and help there. On November 18, 1991 I drove all the children, women and wounded patients who could not walk to the hospital because all the civilians would be evacuated. When we arrived to the hospital, dr. Bosanac told me that I was not allowed to do that and that I should let the people go wherever they wanted. That day the Chetniks entered the hospital and I knew that it would not finish well because dr Bosanac was walking with them through the hospital and kept telling us that everything would be all right. She gave many white lab coats to our people, she told that they would pass as hospital staff. These persons were marked with these lab coats and all of them, men and women, are not alive any more. These coats were new, no body had worn them until then.
On November 18, 1991, all the women and children were brought to Velepromet. They promised us that they would evacuate us during the night to wherever we wanted. In the meantime they told us that they did not have enough vehicles for us. We spent the night there.
On November 19, they ordered us to get out. We were waiting for vehicles but it was a trick because they gathered all the people there at Velepromet. Local Serbs accompanied us and separated us for questioning.. Pero Jovanović and Dragan Šušljik separated me from the group of women. They told me that I would meet my daughter and grandson soon. I was brought to the joiners work-shop at Velepromet. There I was maltreated, even tattooed. These people, together with Milovan Malbaša, Simo Samardžija, Milo Samardžija maltreated me.
On November 20, I was taken for questioning by Nenad Žigić, judge. I knew him before as inspector He accused me in front of the Krajina court for genocide upon Serbian population. He said that I baked 50 Serbian children. They brought me a tray with a baked child, allegedy I did it. The

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members of the jury were: Colonel Boro Vojnović, Mirko Vojnović called Čapalo, Predrag Petrinjac, my ex-neighbour and Milan Bulić called Bulida. I was sentenced to 15 years in jail. They brought me back into the room where I was before. Three days after my arrest they asked me about my husband. I said that I did not know where he was. Zoran Stanković called Kesega, his sister Inga Stanković (licutenant), Dušanka Žigić and Svetlana Malbaša accompanied me to the rail-way an to the brick yard to look for my husband among the corpses. At the brick-yard, in a hole, there were many corpses. I saw gallows and two women and a man were hanging. When I saw it they brought me back to the room and told me: "It is a question whether you will you ever find the bones of your husband". On the fourth day, Boro Latinović, Mirko Vojnović called Čapalo, Radivoje Jakovljević called Frižider, Milan Bulić called Bulida arrived again. Bulida had a pistol for killing cattle and he asked if there were some Ustasha women among us. Mika Ikać told that all of us were Ustasha. And I know that his wife and children are situated in Duga Uvala, in the Industrogradnja camping place. I was humiliated and maltreated every day. Mika Ikać and Predrag Petrusinjac forced me to watch as they killed Ustasha. They told me that I would finish in the same way because another trial was waiting for me. I was watching when Mika Ikać and Predrag Petrinjac (Peda) were beating Goran Kovačević till he fell on the ground due to the beating. Šušljik Dragan and Bulida sat on his back. Dragan held his hair and Bulida cut off his head and then put it on a stick. Then they brought a boy from Zagreb, I did not know his name - he was from Zagreb, a volunteer - and put him on a wood saw. Dragan Šušljik, Mika Ikić (?), Malbaša Milan and Milan Prša held him his legs and arms. In the meantime Goran Mungosa switched on the saw and Ratko Popović pushed the body and they cut him in two. Zora Esesi, Svetlana Malbaša, Stanko and Aleksa Šušljik were witnesses to this massacre. A Chetnik woman - Dušanka Okovacki - told that she would cut finger after finger, ear after ear and that she would make jelly of the Ustasha body. Then I was brought back to the room and Đorđe Marić arrived and accused me of carrying a placard that said "ALL SERBS SHOULD BE HUNG ON WILLOW TREES" around Vukovar during the elections. And Đoko Krstić confirmed that. The sixth day I was transferred to another room and there I found my daughter Violeta without her child. I asked her where her child was and she did not know it. In the evening they took her away for questioning, the door was open so it could bee seen how they were doing it. Predrag Petrinjac and some Captain Dragan from Belgrade did it. I heard it later. She was beaten up and the brought back to the room. I was hiding her behind my back later. I preferred to be killed instead of my child. On the seventh day in the morning they took away everything I had, saying that I would not need anything anymore.

Some Chetnik women - Parcel, Jordan Vukosavljević, Dušanka Žigić - told me that I had been in their houses and that I had stolen all their German Marks and gold. They took my necklace, wrist-watch, 2000 German Marks and 40.000 old dinars. On the seventh day Martin Sajtović and his son Braco (he was completely mad, he was cured of alcoholism many times) were beaten and then killed. They were taken out by: Aladin Suad, Predrag Petrinjac, Milan Prša, Ratko Popović, Đord Bogojević, Goran Mungosa and Vračarić brothers. They beat them, jumped and walked over them and killed them. As they were not satisfied with this, they took out a young man called Zdraviša. They immediately started to cut him with knives and put salt on his wounds. It was performed by Gojko Milićević, Đorđe Bogojević, Miki Ikač, Drago Šušljik and some reservists from Belgrade whose name I ignored.

Zdraviša died due to the wounds and his brother who was in the same room with me became mad (he is in Zagreb). During the night it was raining. A man in a JNA uniform opened the door and asked what the women and children were doing there. Then they took us out and transferred to the room where I had been before. Regular military police watched over us in this room. Then I got some water for the first time, just to wet my tongue. Late in the night they brought some captured boys, they were from Zagreb. They were beaten, maltreated and one of them died due to beatings. When the Military police saw what the Chetniks were doing, one of the military policemen threw a gun and started to fight with four Chetniks and told them to leave the room. In the meantime, one of the boys was loaded into a car. They wanted to drive him to the ill-famed camp in Negoslavci and try him immediately. During the same night, when there was no light, a military policeman arrived and told us to get out , as quietly as possible, and to enter the bus which was situated near the door. We entered the bus, we did not know where we were going. Suddenly I saw a light. When we got out from the bus, I saw that we were in the Vukovar barracks. There were regular soldiers and they immediately gave us food and water. I was asking only for water, I told them that I was thirsty. When they heard that I did not eat anything for a long time, he did not allow me to drink much water. There, in the barracks, I stayed for 5 days. We were not maltreated there, we had three meals and cigarettes. That military policeman promised that he would not leave Vukovar while we were there. It was so. On the fifth day he arrived and told us to pack our things, although I had nothing to pack.

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We were loaded onto military trucks and driven to Sremska Mitrovica. It happened on January 2, 1991. He told us: "You will get out from here, from Vukovar you would have never gotten out.
We were brought to some room where we were searched. I told them that they could search only my soul. One police woman, named Milica (or Zdenka or Gordana) told me that maybe I would not need even my soul because I had chosen the wrong side. She said: "I left my Gorica and I came to defend my Serbian country."
After that I was situated in the room No. 14 where I found many women and dr. Bosanac. But she was taken out every morning and brought back in the evening - allegedly she wrote statements about the things that had happened in Vukovar.
She asked me for the names of the people who maltreated me in Vukovar, for the Geneva Convention. I did not gave it to her. We were registered by the Geneva Red Cross . We were exchanged on March 27, 1992 in Bosanski Šamac, on the bridge. We had to walk for 2 km. Later I arrived to Zagreb.

By signing each page of the statement I confirm the authenticity of the above written.

In Zagreb, March 25, 1993

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D.I.M.H.
Division of Information and Research
Ministry of Health of the Republic of Croatia

TESTIMONY VU. - VP. - 692

(a Croat, displaced person from Vukovar, born on 1923, witness of the son's murder, worked on burial of killed Croats)

On September 15, 1991, in the 7:15 a. m., JNA tanks reached Vuteks. Three armed Chetniks entered our basement, they told us to get out from the basement and we told them that we were civilians. they ordered us to get out from there. My son was with us, he walked towards exit and on the third step they shot him. He fell down, his brain poured out of his skull. They shot with kalashnikov. There were three Chetniks, among them I recognised the son of Ilija Oreščanin, short, with yellow hair, hě lived in the Zelena street. The second one was the son of Stevo Zorić who lived in the Dalmatinska street and some Siniša Fot, son of Ivica and Savka, his commander was Pero Rupić called Robija. Oreščanin shot my son. When they killed my son, they ordered us again to get out from the basement. My wife, two grandsons and my daughters-in-law were together with me in the basement. I moved first and wife came after me. They told us that we would be evacuated and told us to proceed so we escaped towards Radničko Naselje. We entered Zvonko Vorkanjis basement and there we spent the night. On September 16, we transferred us to the larger basement, under the super-market in Radničko Naselje. They were looking for me and my cousin who was invalid, in wheel-chair. Some young Chetnik from Mirkovci was looking for me, he had white ribbon on his shoulder and he wore JNA uniform. They were still looking for me but a Serbian woman, married to Croat, protected and saved me. She saved me when this man from Mirkovci was approaching me. Then a man said: "Leave in peace the sick man." We stayed in the basement for two days. Then we were driven to Petrova Gora. Milan Brković called Mića and Zvonko Vorkanji drove us by two cars. Zvonko was prisoner in this moment. He told that the Serbs from Trpinja knew everything about him. As soon as I arrived to Petrova Gora, at Vorkanji's mother, near the rail-way, I was officially arrested. Then Marko Crevar told me: "Do you know that you are arrested now." Marko Crevar was commander of the firing squad and Vlado Vezmar was his deputy. I thought that they would shot me. Marko Crevar and this Vlado from Kobastar, who was working there, put me into a car. They wore civilian clothes, they had kalashnikovs and guns. They drove me to the Svetozara Markovića street No. 222. There I was ordered to get out. Marko Crevar walked in front of me. We walked through some yard, into the garden. However, there they told me that they had missed. Then they maltreated me. In the basement of this house there were six persons: M., J., ... , ... , ... , ... I asked them if they were taking out the people during the night. There we stayed for 12 days. We were watched over by guards who were from Vukovar: Kraguljac, Belopetrović, Milan Samardžija and Joja (allegedly he was killed later). Among them there was also some Mile from Serbia, he was the most dangerous one. They wore uniforms, some of them had red stars. Some Cekić Dušan was among them. We were working, cleansing streets and digging up graves for dead people. We were digging up the graves near the new fair place, in the end of the S. Markovića street, a little bit on the right side, near Mišir's wine yard, 100 meters far from the "Vesela Dolina" inn. The holes were for three, four men. We dug up 20 to 30 holes. There was small space between the holes. 8, 9 persons worked with me. Two of us together dug up the holes. Croats were buried into these graves. All the persons we buried had civilian clothes, majority of them were men, from 18 to 30 years. I did not see any women among them. I dug up holes and buried civilians to November 18, 1991. People who were buried had been killed in different ways, most of them had been shot in a head. They had wounds due to knife, some of them had slit throats. My friends M. and J. worked on another massive grave. This grave was situated near the poplar-lined avenue, between poplar-trees and the house of Brać brothers, on the road towards Petrovci. We were bringing corpses into this grave after the fall of Vukovar. The corpses were driven by trucks. The grave is situated on the property of Stevo Kokot. His house is situated near pond, on the exit from Vukovar. This grave is situated on the road from Vukovar towards Petrovci, from Novo vašarište (new fair place) and the inn "Vesela Dama" 200 - 300 meters towards Petrovci. On the left side there is road made of black slag, this road is 500 meters long, then you have to follow the field-road for 150 meters and on the right side, towards poplar-trees, is situated massive grave. JNA was bringing corpses to this place. M. and J. worked on this grave.

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J.G. worked on the grave which was situated near the house of Brać brothers. They worked there day and night. There were 8 of them who worked.
I worked on individual graves. I recognised the corps of Striber ..... . , he lived in Proleterska street. He had been killed with hunting rifle, he had a hole on his back, about the of an egg. He was buried on the new cemetery. Pero Đojić was killed too. I removed him out of the hole in his garden. He had been killed with kalashnikov, he was shot in a head. He was buried on the new cemetery.
On September 29, we were driven to the Velepromet, the same persons from the basement were with me. We were 9. On September 15, me and this 9 persons were working in the Svetozara Markovića street. We cleaned the street for one day. Our chief was Marko Crevar, Vlado, Belopetrović, Simo and Milan Samardžić, Joja. Till the fall of Vukovar we buried the corpses. Graves were covered without names on them. Till the fall of Vukovar we buried the corpses without anything. Patologists from Belgrade arrived in Vukovar few days after the fall. There were 3 medical doctors, 4-5 assistents and 6 prisoners. One of the doctors was Major Zoran Stanković. His commander was Lieutenant-colonel Lazić and there was also Jović from Borovo Selo, representative of the Ministry of Health. Teltphone number of dr. Stanković in Belgrade, in the JNA hospital (VMA), is 752-758. Dr. Stanković worked on the brick-yard. But every day they were going back to Sombor, to a hotel. I worked with dr. Stanković, I made cofee but I slept at Velepromet, in the basement. My chief was Milan Cvetičanin - Cveto, tall, strong, he was the member of the White Eagles. He was the commander of the prisoners guards. He was in charge of offices of Major Žigić. The Chetniks who were at Velepromet: Krstić - from Sajmište, son of Sava, guard; Suzić, son of Dušan. I was at Velepromet to January 24, 1992. Then we were release. I went in Belgrade and after ten days I went to Croatia.

OTHER:
Rade Ivković and some Živko were main Chetniks who gave orders to us, prisoners. Sometimes we dug up 18 corpses in one day. Sometimes we used to drive to 100 corpses to the brick-yard. We are sure that over 1000 corpses were driven to the brick-yard. In the Nova street I saw hangers. There I saw Mićo Čakić, Chetnik. Wife of Major Žigić, Dušanka, and his sister Željka were laughing while we removed the corpses of dr Tomislav's parents. Rade Iveković took us out. The corpses were driven to the New cemetery after the pathological exams.
Cuk, ex-officer of the JNA, commanded with artillery and tanks which destroyed Olajnica.

Borovo Naselje - near airport - there is mass grave. Juraj, Mato and Jozo went there.

Rade Ivković and some Živko had a list of graves where killed people were buried and then we went there and removed them. Rade Ivković went to Major Žigić and he gave him these lists. He was driving us by 5 tone truck.

Zdravko ..... raped a Croat woman. He was taking her in the evening and bringing her back in the morning. It happened few times.

By signing each page of the statement I confirm its authenticity. I gave the statement of my own free will and without coercion.

April 6, 1993

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TESTIMONY LOV. - 495

(testimony about murder in Lovas after the arrival of the members of the UNPROFOR)

My sister Pavica Kovačević (born on December 16, 1952) and her daughter Elvira (born on November 30, 1973) mostly were maltreated because of her son who did his military service in the JNA until April 27, 1992, in Knin. He was exchanged and he came to Croatia and his mother and sister remained in Lovas. The Chetniks maltreated them all the time and they tried to expel them. They were putting pieces of paper under their gate on which it was written that they should move out or they would be killed. My sister Pavica did not want to, she did not wanted to leave her house and the Chetniks killed them.

I saw my sister for the last time on December 25, 1992 in Hungary. We had an appointment there. At the time you could leave occupied Lovas with a passport. We met there because she wanted to see her son. She did not see him for 21 months, since the beginning of the war. Her husband died while her son was doing his military service in Knin. He saw his mother later only once and now she is gone. His father was beaten up by Chetniks. He died due to beating on about December 20, 1992 in Sremska Mitrovica.

My sister told me that she had given a statement to the UNPROFOR about all the events that had happened in Lovas and the UNPROFOR had promised that they would protect her. She signed that statement. These members of the UNPROFOR were situated in Orolik. My sister said there was usually a woman and three men. I was trying to convince her to come to free Croatia because the Chetniks would kill her. But she believed in the UNPROFOR. She believed that the UNPROFOR would protect her from the local Chetnik authorities even she knew very well who they were and what they thought about her. After she gave the statement, the members of the UNPROFOR were came very often because she had told them that she had been afraid that Chetniks would take revenge because of the statement. All my persuasion was without avail. My sister Pavica returned to occupied Lovas, believing in the UNPROFOR. But the situation became worse on about January 25, 1993 and the Chetniks used the first occasion to kill her. I later received a letter from her in which she was tried to convince me that everything was all right. Then I received information over the phone, from Germany, that the situation had became worse. The Chetniks burnt my father's house (which is still in the village) and theirs (my sister and her daughter were killed). A few days later we heard that one more woman had been killed - Anica Pavličić or Pavlić (I am not sure). All that information I heard was correct because after these events 10 more people were exiled from Lovas. They confirmed that the three had been killed and the house had been burnt.

People know who killed them but they are afraid because of their safety and because of the safety of their relatives who remained in the village. The UNPROFOR should know all these things because they are responsible for the UNPA zone. My sister had told them all she knew and that was why she was killed. She believed in the protection of the UNPROFOR but she and her daughter were killed. There is anarchy in the village. Local Chetniks who committed war crimes and massacres are walking around freely and keep on killing. I demand from the UNPROFOR, in which my sister believed and due to whom she lost her head, to do something in order to stop these criminals, to arrest them. UNPROFOR should do it. I do not understand why they arrived in Croatia if they are not able to keep the peace and order.

By signing every page of the testimony, the giver confirms it's authenticity and that the testimony is given without coercion.

February 2, 1993

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TESTIMONY LOV - 628

(displaced person form Lovas, Croat, born on 1949, eye-witness of mass killing of civilians)

The JNA attack on Lovas began at 07:30, on 10 October, 1991. First they fired about 10 grenades from their positions in the graveyard. LATAS MILAN was killed and VIDIĆ MARIJA was wounded during this attack. White Eagle (Šešelje's units) Chetniks began to arrive form the direction of Opatovca. The first victim, of the White Eagles, on the road from Lovas to Opatovca was SABLJAK TOMO - TONA (nickname ROĐA). He was found dead beside his car. The Chetniks arrived in the village from the direction of Opatovca, and there was about 80 of them, I heard this from a Chetnik. One of the Chetniks, who had an army uniform, said that the army sent a small number of them into the village, as if they did not know how many people there was in the village. Before the attack the JNA had come and ordered us to surrender all our weapons, so the village was unarmed and offered no resistance. Once they entered the village the Chetniks began the arrests and killing of civilians. The JNA surrounded the village with tanks, so that no one could escape and the Chetniks could then capture them. During the first two days of occuption, that is the 10th and 11th of October, 199, 24 civilians from the village were killed :

1. GRGIĆ MIRKO - killed in DANIJEL BADANJAK's yard on 10 October, 1991
2. BADANJAK DANIJEL - killed in his yard on 10 October, 1991
3. BADANJAK CECILIJA - killed in DANIJEL BADANJAK's yard on 10 October, 1991
4. KRIZMARIĆ VID - killed in his house
5. JOVANOVIĆ ANTUN - killed in his yard
6. JOVANOVIĆ ANKA - killed in her yard
7. POLIĆ ALOJZIJE - born 1951 - killed in his yard
8. ADAMOVIĆ MATO (Brico) - from Tovarnik - killed in front of IVAN MARIĆ's house
9. PAVLIČEVIĆ KATA - killed crossing the street at 2 Vladimir Nazor
10. POLJAK ĐUKA - taken from his house and killed in ĐUKE FILIĆ's yard, 11 Vladimir Nazor
11. KESER MATO - taken from his house and killed in ĐUKE FILIĆ's yard, 11 Vladimir Nazor
12. MAĐAREVIĆ STJEPAN - killed in ANTE NIKIĆ's yard, 17 Vladimir Nazor
13. POLJAK JOSIP - younger - killed in his own house, on Bežanija street
14. RENDULIĆ PETAR - in MIĆE TEPAVAC's attic
15. OSTRUN IVAN - killed at MUMI cafe
16. KRALJEVIĆ JOSIP - on street at ANDRIJA MARTINOVIĆ's house
17. ĐAKOVIĆ PAVO - killed in his house -
18. PEJIĆ DRAGUTIN - killed behind JOSIP JOVANOVIĆ's house
19. BOŽIĆ MIJO - killed behind JOSIP JOVANOVIĆ's house
20. PEIĆ STJEPAN - killed in his house
21. ANTOLOVIĆ ŽIVKO - killed by sniper in front of STJEPAN SABLJAK's house
22. LEMUNOVIĆ ANICA - killed in the basement of his house
23. JONAK RUDOLF - found dead in front of MILET JOVANOVIĆ's house, his hands were bound by a wire cable. He was buried in the graveyard near the Paje Pavošević street entrance, in the VUKASA family vault
24. RENDULIĆ JOSIP (Joja) - killed in his yard, in shed
25. Unknown man, I found him outside the village at ĐUKE FILIĆ's orchard. He was put in a bag, so I could not recognize him

A group of 15-20 White Eagle (Šešelj's units) Chetniks came into my yard at 07:30 on 10 October, 1991. Among them were two men, TEPAVAC ZORAN (Serb) and ZORAJA SLOBODAN (Serb from Lovas), they were in JNA uniforms with civilian jackets and M-48 military issue guns, TEPAVAC ZORAN was in a complete JNA uniform.

When then came to my house they began firing at the house with automatic rifles and started yelling "Come out Ustasha". I went outside and they sent me to get my brother E.F and V.B. from the same street, Vladimir Nazor street. I had to call to them to come out of their houses. When they came out, we were forced into the co-operative's yard. My wife, mother and neighbour I.M stayed at my house. My son M.F., age 16, was with me.

The Chetniks went through the entire village and killed some people immediately, others were brought to the co-operative's yard. This yard was used as some sort of collection center. There must have been over 100 women, children and elderly people there. There they began the questionings and beatings. The women and children were allowed to return home the same day, October 10, 1991, at about 15:00, but the men were held

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back. After that they began to select who would be released, about 30 people were held for two days and nights, and from those 30, 20 were held in a camp until October 18, 1991, and that night they were taken out and killed.
I was released on October 10, 1991 at 17:00, and on October 11, 1991 at 08:00 I received a telephone call by BRAJKOVIĆ ŽELJKO, who said that DEVETAK LJUBAN ordered that I report to the police station, they wanted me to be the president of the local government, it was only a trick, before me that day came SOMBORAC VLADO (Croat) who became the president of the local government.
The next day, October 12, 1991, DEVETAK LJUBAN sent a courier, SELEBA TOMO (Croat), for me and I was told to go on watch. I refused to go on watch, with the reason that I was scared. That night I was kept in the co-operative's kitchen among the Chetniks. All the Chetniks were not from the area they were from Valjeva and Belgrade, I did not know any of them. I was the only Croat amonst them. They swore at my Croatian, Ustasha mother and talked on how they will kill everyone.
On the morning of October 13, 1991I was called by DEVČIĆ MIĆO (half Croat and half Serb from Lovas), who said that I had to come at 10:00 to take a uniform and weapons, I told him that I could not take a gun against the people with whom I had lived for 40 years. He asked if I knew that there was a war occuring and that my people would kill me. I replied that whoever in the village thought that I was guilty could kill me, and then I began to cry. He then said that I could go home and said that he would talk to DEVETAK LJUBAN. After that no one called me to put on a uniform, but they did call on October 14, 1991 for me to carry the dead, with a tractor and trailer.
When they released me from the camp of October 10, 1991, VORKAPIĆ MILAN placed a white armband on my left upper arm, these armbands were put on every Croatians and every Croatian house white rags were put on the entrances or doors. We were required to wear these armbands until November 1, 1991, and the rags remained on the houses until New Years 1992. Me and my son had to report at the local government offices every morning where we received our daily forced labour schedule. We worked from 07:00 to 17:00, when the curfew began.
On October 14, 1991 I was ordered to drive the dead from the village to the graveyard. A man, Š.P (Croat), was assigned to identify the dead, there were 5-6 Croatian prisoners who were assigned the job of loading the corpses onto the trailer. Among them were : B.F., J.R, J.B, POLJAK FLORIJAN, Đ.R.
On October 15, 199, 9 people were killed. All the dead were civilians and they were all shot. We were always watched over by 6 Chetniks with weapons. We took them to the Catholic community grave. A canal 25 meters long, 80-100 cm. wide and 2 meters deep was dug by a military excavator, on the opposite side was a shorter canal,10-12 meters long, to which I never brought the dead.
The first day we put into bags PEJIĆ DRAGUTIN, BOŽIĆ MIJO, JONAK RUDOLF, RENDULIĆ JOSIP and I think ANTOLOVIĆ ŽIVKO, the others were covered with blankets, sheets or table cloths.
LATAS MILAN was buried in his garden at his house, on hill on Vladimir Nazor street. All the others were buried in the canal. The corpses were packed into the canal by hand, when one row was full the corpses were covered with dirt and new row was started.
On October 17, 1991 they began banging with drums to inform us that all men between 20 and 50 years of age where to report at 16:00, it was concerning our work. It was a trick, because waiting for us was the so-called army of "DUŠAN the GREAT" (Chetniks), who surrounded us at the co-operative in the center of the village. At 17:00 they ordered that we enter the co-operative's yard one by one, where they searched us and beat us, some were beat in the head. They had placed benches in three rows here, and they threatened that we all should be killed, that it supposedly was us who set fire to the "Borovo" plant, but this was done by the same Chetniks and that we would spend the entire night sitting on the benches and if anybody moved they would be killed. In front of us they placed a machine gun and six other guns, aimed at us. The men in front us us wore camoflage uniforms, some had cocades, and some had bandanas. After half an hour, DEVETAK LJUBAN arrived and said that everyone who had worked on the waterworks or the slaughtering of the pigs, in other words the people on work details, to leave. Twelve (12) people then left, but before they left he said that I should also leave. He took us to the house of MIRKO MILIĆ where we were to spend the night, he put SEDLAR RADE (Serb) to watch over us. The next morning, October 17, 1991 he said that we could not go home and that we had to go to our jobs. The people who remained in the camp at the co-opreative were beaten the entire night, they were pricked with knives, on October 18, 1991 at 10:00 they took them to a mine field they had put in a clover field on the entrance to the village, before the "Borovo", plant, towards the main road for Jelaš and the road that leads to Tovarnik-Vukovar. I think it was public land, beside the land of J.P. On the way to the minefield they shot BOĐANAC BOSKA, at the bridge at Dol. I did not go to the minefield , but I talked to the survivors amongst which was my brother, and they said that they had to hold hands and walk into the minefield. At the minefiled one Chetnik kicked KRALJEVIĆ IVAN in the back and he fell onto a mine, 5 people died in the explosion, and then the Chetniks began to fire with their automatic rifles and killed 14 others. There were 13 wounded and 15 had no injuries, because a JNA officer arrived and asked what they were doing with the civilians and told them to stop the shooting.

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Amongst the killed were :
1. PALIJAN IVAN
2. HODAK MATO
3. ŠTRANGAREVIĆ SLAVKO
4. BADANJAK NIKOLA
5. SABLJAK MARKO (Perin)
6. SABLJAK IVAN
7. PANJIK ANTUN
8. PANJIK ZLATKO
9. TURKALJ JOSIP (Đurin)
10. VIDIĆ MARKO
11. SABLJAK TOMISLAV
12. KUZMIĆ SLAVKO
13. BOŽIĆ ZLATKO
14. MARKOVIĆ MARINKO
15. SOLAKOVIĆ DARKO
16. BADANJAK PETAR
17. SALAJ MIJO (Mihovil)
18. BALIĆ LIKA
19. KRALJEVIĆ IVAN

They commanded that all the living stand up. Those that were wounded were helped. All the wounded were put onto a truck, a civilian truck I think, and the truck went to Šid, from Šid the lightly wounded were taken to the Lovas clinic, and after 3 days they were taken to Sremska Mitrovica hospital, the others went directly to Mitrovica. Those that were not killed or wounded, had to put the corpses onto the truck. The corpses were kept on the truck for 2 days. After two days they were taken to the graveyard where the corpses were put onto my trailer and I took them to the common grave, where I brought the others before. There were not wrapped up or put into bags, instead they were put into the common grave at the Catholic graveyard.
The night of October 18, 1991, there were 19 civilians killed, they were imprisoned in the basement of the local government, there they were beat and tortured, I saw one of them them while he was still alive, KRIZMARIĆ ALOJZIJE, his pant legs were covered in blood, as if they were soaked in blood, he fell into a vase in the local government offices. They were taken from the camp and in one place were killed in groups of 3-4:
The following were killed that day :
1. DAMLJANOVIĆ MARKO (Bosanac) - one of four who were killed in IVAN MAĐAREVIĆ's garage
2. JOVANOVIĆ JOSIP - one of four who were killed in IVAN MAĐAREVIĆ's garage
3. PAVLIĆ DARKO - one of four who were killed in IVAN MAĐAREVIĆ's garage
4. PAVLIĆ ŽELJKO - one of four who were killed in IVAN MAĐAREVIĆ's garage
5. KRIZMANIĆ ĐUKA - killed in BOŽO LATAS's garage
6. KRIZMANIĆ ZORAN - killed in BOŽO LATAS's garage
7. PANŽA FRANJO - killed in BOŽO LATAS's garage
8. One unknown boy - killed in BOŽO LATAS's garage
9. BALIĆ MARIN - killed in VLADO DEVČIĆ's basement, Vl. Nazor street
10. BALIĆ KATICA - killed in VLADO DEVČIĆ's basement, Vl. Nazor street
11. VIDIĆ IVICA - killed in VLADO DEVČIĆ's basement, Vl. Nazor street
12. DEVČIĆ ANDRIJA - killed in IVICA KRIZMANIĆ's house, Vl. Nazor street
13. FIŠER MARIJA - killed in IVICA KRIZMANIĆ's house, Vl. Nazor street
14. LUKETIĆ PETAR - killed at chapel in Catholic graveyard
15. LUKETIĆ ĐUKA - killed at chapel in Catholic graveyard
16. KRIZMANIĆ ALOJZIJE - killed at chapel in Catholic graveyard
17. DOLAČKI STJEPAN - killed at chapel in Catholic graveyard
18. LUKETIĆ STJEPAN - killed in Brd, on road in village
19. PAVOŠEVIĆ SLAVICA - killed in own basement, Paje Pavošević street, was not in camp
20. PAVOŠEVIĆ JOZEFINA - killed in own basement, Paje Pavošević street, was not in camp
21. PAVOŠEVIĆ MARIJANA - killed in own basement, Paje Pavošević street, was not in camp

They were all put into black bags and put into the canal. I took all these people to the canal because that is what I was ordered to do. Every morning I had to report for the forced labor, on the same day I had to take those from the basement that were killed (October 18, 1991),as well as those that came back from the

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minefield. I was driving a tractor and trailer, with a white rag on it, I also had to wear a white armband, those doing the loading were B.F, Đ.R. and some others, they were all Croats who loaded the corpses. They also had to put the corpses into the grave. I would drive the tractor beside the canal, and they would throw the corpses in, when one row was full they would place some dirt over them. On the same day that they buried the dead from the minefield, ĐUMIĆ FRANJO was beaten to death and buried in the same grave but he was placed in a bag.
VIDIĆ BOŽO was killed in his basement on October 23, 1991, he lived on Vladimir Nazor street, and he was put into a black bag. He was buried in his own plot. His sister had asked if he could be buried in his own plot and he was.
MARTINOVIĆ ZVONKO was killed in the yard of MARTINOVIĆ ANDRIJA, Tomislav street, and was put in a coffin made of boards. He was killed near the end of October, 1991, I did nor drive him to the grave, this was done by someone else who was ordered to. During this entire period the JNA was surrounding the village, and in the village they had their headquarters. Immediately after the occupation they stationed a unit from Kragujevac there.
Fifteen days after the start of the occupation, reservists from Bečeja arrived, after them there were reservists from Bačka Topola and then from Subotica. The officers were from the regular JNA. In the first month of 1992, reservists from Pančevo arrived. Amongst the reservists from Subotica, Bačka Topola and Bečeja were Croats and Hungarians, but they were not allowed to talk with Croats from the village.
They began settle Serbs before the new year, but in smaller numbers, so that until New Years 1992 they had settled about 20 Serbian families, but then they began a massive colonization. On December 22, 1991 policemen from Knin, SAO-Krajina came to our village and collected about 20 people (Croatians) and began to beat them with metal rods and wooden boards over their entire body. They beat them in the basement of the offices of the local government. To two of the twenty the drilled holes into the soles of the feet with a power drill, and they drilled a hole below my brothers knee, I think it was his right one. They also removed 11 of my brothers teeth, from the right side, he had white gold fillings on these teeth, two other prisoners also lost one tooth each. They removed the teeth with ordinary workmens pliers, and they would use a spoon to put salt onto the wounds.
They paid particular attention to five of the prisoners : M.M, E.F., V.B., Đ.R., LJ., they would beat them in the head and the entire body, and especially in the genital area.
My brother and M:M were tied to two steel posts with handcuffs for 24 hours. I saw my brother in Lovas again, 90 % of his body was covered by bruises. He and V.B. had to spit into each others faces. They also forced one other to slap and hit. The other 15 were imprisoned until December 25, 1991. They were beaten upon their bodies. B., age 30, was especially beaten in the genaital area.
After being released on December 26, 1991they all had to leave the village and go to Zagreb.
I also wanted to leave then but they did not let me, I could not stand the terror and was afraid that I would end up like them. After two months, 7 armed Chetniks came, they were all unfamiliar to me, and ordered that I get ready to leave the village in 5 minutes. It was around 19:00 on Febuary 21, 1992.
On that day, Febuary 21, 1992, they first told me that I had to leave my house and village in 2 days. The same day I went to the command in the village, to the JNA officer, and asked for an escort out of the crisis area. He said that there would be no moves and that he would talk with "them". The officer had the rank of Captain, middle weight. But he said that the army would inform me within one day as to whether I would be leaving or not. Instead of the army it was the Chetniks who arrived, amongs them was one called "KOSTA". He was short, weak, had black hair, he wore various uniforms from camoflage to JNA , and sometimes civilian clothes. He told me that I had 5 minutes to leave my house, and the village and that he was my escort, not the army, and he asked me why I went to the JNA command. Since that day I am in Zagreb, with my family, as a displaced person.

This statement is given freely and without coercion, and by signing every page of this statement I verify it's autenticity

Zagreb, April 4, 1993

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TESTIMONY LOV. - 735

(displaced person from Lovas, born on 1956, Croat)

On October 10, 1991, at 07:30 the bombing of Lovas, by the JNA, began. The bombing concentrated primarily on the "SOKAČKI" part of town, a completely Croatian section, and lasted about 1 hour. After the artillery stopped firing volunteers from neighbouring villages in JNA, camouflage and civilian uniforms began to arrive from the direction of Opatovac. This lasted until about 13:00. They gathered together and took over the xxxx in Partizan street. It was here that I recognised the following people who attacked the village : VORKAPIĆ MILAN Senior and Junior from Lovas, KRNJAIĆ ŽELJKO, VORKAPIĆ ILIJA, and three from Opatovac. GOJKO from Tovarnik who used to work at "NAMA" in Vukovar, TEPAVAC ZORAN, RUDIĆ MIRKO from Lovas, ZORAN ..... from Lovas.
Altogether there were about 50 of them on my street. They were primarily sitting there and drinking or searching through the houses of Croatians. They remained for about 2 hours. They took the truck of PEJAK ZVONKO and went towards the centre of town. PEJAK ZVONKO had escaped earlier.
In the afternoon, around dusk, the following : RADOJČIĆ MILAN, RUDIĆ MIRKO, some man by the name of KOSTA a volunteer, came to search for me, and my mother answered. RADOJČIĆ called for me to come out and told me that I had to go with him and that from then on I was to be at the police station in the centre of the town, at the house of KESER BORE a Croatian who was in Germany. My job was to be to take care of the generators that were providing the electricity and water for the village, this was by the order of RADOJČIĆ. I went to the basement of the house of KESER BORE, which was made into a jail. The ground and first floors were the police station while the basement was a jail. The main jail was in the basement of the local co-operative. I was in this jail until December 31, 1991. I was there for forced labour. I was working on the maintenance of the electrical generators, used primarily for the water distribution in the village.
In the main police station was DEVETAK LJUBAN who was born in Lovas but was living in Belgrade. By profession he was an economist, and had worked in Osijek, then moved in Belgrade and there he had a private firm. When they came to take me away they also ordered that I, my wife and my children had to wear a white band on our left upper arm, and put a white rag at the front of our house., only the Croatians had to do this. Along whit me in the jail was B.I, a Croat who remained in Lovas and who was the mechanic for the generators, L.A. who did the maintenance for the central heating in the police building, L.A. who took care of the central heating in the local government offices. We were together non-stop, and they would only take us out when there was a job to be done. For lunch we would go to the cafeteria at the co-operative. We had breakfast and in the evening we received a can and a piece of bread.
Mid-way through December, 1991, under the orders of RADOJČIĆ MILAN, I was taken to Šid to MACURA SLAVKO, who was from Vukovar but was living in Šid, they were the only ones who had authority in eastern Slavonia, in the name of SAO Krajina, and he was in charge of the co-operative for operational jobs. Then MACURA SLAVKO told me that I had to accompany him to the office of the general director of the "Elektrovojvodina", who came to Šid so that we could show him, on a map, the transmission wires and equipment we would use to bring electricity to that part of eastern Vukovar municipality. I was with them for 7 days, and I went with their people into the field, from Šid to Njemac to Opatovac and Tovarnik. I was with them until December 31, 1991, working on repairing machinery, so that on that day we could supply electricity to my village and I was allowed to go home. But under the condition that every morning I had to report for work duty. I had to report to the office of RADOJČIĆ MILAN who would then give me the duties for the work day.
During October, 1991 I was taken to the co-operative's mechanics shop where there were already 100 people inside. I was then searched thoroughly, maltreated and all my personal belongings were taken from me, this was done by volunteers in camouflaged uniforms with cocades, they belonged to the Chetnik units known as "JOVIĆEVCI", "ŠEŠELJEVCI" and "ARKANOVCI".
DVETAK LJUBAN then came into this group and separated 15 of us, I was among the 15 along with E.I. , T.J. , P.I. , B.I , and B.I. , and we were taken to the local offices, where DEVETAK LJUBAN told us that we were needed to maintain the infrastructure of the village, that he was told to separate 15 people from the group, and that he could not do anything for the others. He did not say who gave him these orders. The other people were gathered under false pretences, they were told that they were coming to discuss work in the fields. They went around the town announcing how people could go work in the field. I was taken from this group of fifteen and put in the jail in the basement of the

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police station, to control the electricity, while the other members of the group were taken to the house of MILIĆ MIRKO senior where they spent the night. At about 17:00 that same day I overheard a conversation between the volunteers in the police station. They were talking about the plans of sending one group to Kalvariaj, Čota and Ekonomija from where they would provoke the others, by doing this they would then have a reason to maltreat the people, and during the night this did occur. They beat and maltreated the people the entire night, and the next morning they took the people from the co-operative to clover field in front of the Borovo factory, with the excuse that "Ustasha" tried an attack the previous night and that they were still around. They told the people to show them where the "Ustasha" were, but in fact they brought them to a mine field that was laid the night before by members of the "Šešelj" Chetnik group, some of the members of this Chetnik group were PETRONIJE, DRAGAN, and JOCA from Belgrade. I learned about this when I was in the police station jail.

In the morning I saw the group that had been in the mine field but the group was about half it's original size. I knew that something had occurred and I found out later in a discussion with L.T. The command of the JNA was located in the house of BRAJKOVIĆ in Tomislav street in the middle of town. The commander was Colonel KOVAČ MIRKO. The unit was the Novi Sad corpus. The "Jović" and "Šešelj" Chetniks were in the house of F.I. who was chased out of his house. Across the street in the house of P.B. were the "Arkan" Chetniks.

During the time that I was in the police jail I saw them bring in other people for questioning, the questioning was done by : DEVETAK LJUBAN, RADOJČIĆ MILAN, KRNJAIĆ ŽELJKO and DEVČIĆ MIĆO, I know this because I was questioned twice. People were beaten during the questionings, this I know because of the screams I heard coming from the rooms. One night the afore-mentioned people took me from the basement and showed me a video of the creation of the HDZ political party in Lovas, I was required to identify people in the video, I was also on the video. Here they beat me with fists, batons, guns, pieces of cable and pipes.

At the end of October, 1991, I was present when they brought in LUKETIĆ STJEPAN and his wife who were beaten during questioning and one Chetnik by the name of "BASTA" said that it was not necessary to question them any longer and that they should be killed as was agreed earlier. After a few minutes they did this in the near vicinity in a location known a s "centralo". They took them from the building into the dark and gunshots were heard. When it became light in the morning I saw their corpses.

After they had let me go home in the evenings, as long as I showed the next morning for the work details, I was visited one evening by RADOJČIĆ MILAN and KRNJAIĆ ŽELJKO who again warned me, in front of my entire family, that I should try to escape because they would then kill both me and my family. During my stay in the jail; RUDIĆ MIRKO and RADOVIĆ MILE took my care with the excuse that they were guarding it so that some unknown volunteers would not take it. This proved to be false because the car was later given to RADOJČIĆ MILAN, who let it be known during several visits, to my wife and children, that it was now his car. The car was also taken by JNA Colonel KOVAČ MIRKO who was the commander of the village, and he gave me a receipt that stated "This document confirms that the car "Reno 11" licence plate VU-278-26 is now in temporary use by VP-4478" and on the stamp was written Military Post Office number "4478 - Kragujevac".

In fact all the cars, tractors and machines from the village were taken from the owners and given to the volunteers, the distribution and sale of these items was supervised by MILJKOVIĆ MILAN, a Serb from Lovas, whose brother is in Zagreb, MILJKOVIĆ MILJENKO in the Vukovar police and is the assistant commander-in-chief of the Vukovar police.

During the beginning of 1992 I was called by DEVETAK LJUBAN who had become the director of the agricultural association, also present at the meeting were RADOJČIĆ MILAN, PRODANOVIĆ ĐURO and KRNJAIĆ ŽELJKO who told me that it was well known that I supervised all the work on the electrical objects in the community and that I had to bring them all into working condition. And that I was not allowed to leave until this was accomplished, and they came to my house and took the suitcase in which I had prepared things for my departure, and threw the things around the room and warned me not to play with my life.

In Lovas, which before the occupation had 1700 residents of which 94 % were Croatian, they settled around 1500 Serbs from Western Slavonia and some from Bosnia and Vojvodina. In the occupied Lovas there remained around 100 Croats, 25 people in mixed marriages and 144 Serbs from Lovas. The settlers arrived in cars or tractors and they moved into our houses with the permission of the so-called commission for houses, in this group were the following : PRODANOVIĆ ĐURO, RADOJČIĆ MILAN, RADOJČIĆ ILIJA and TEPAVAC MILAN all Serbs from Lovas.

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These same settlers also received land, however much they wanted from 1 to 10 hectares. This distribution of land was done by MARINČIĆ ĐORĐE, a Serb from Slatine, SOMBORAC VLADO, a Croat from Lovas, and TEPAVAC MILAN, a Serb from Lovas.
The settlers did not take much from our houses because the volunteers and Serbs from our village had already looted the houses in the initial attack. During the attack on the village and before the attack and around 30 houses were burned down , from these the new houses were rebuilt, financial aid was provided by the co-operative, and the new Serb settlers were moved into them. The old houses and the Catholic church were left in ruins. The church was first rocketed during September and the tower was damaged, after the occupation it was set on fire and further damage was done, and later, 1992-1993, it was slowly demolished and the material was used in repairing their church and other buildings.
The main people in the co-operative responsible for the manipulation of the residents were local Serbs : DEVETAK LJUBAN, RADOJČIĆ MILAN, PRODANOVIĆ ĐURO, KRNJAIĆ ŽELJKO, TEPAVAC MILAN, DEVČIĆ BOŽO, MILJKOVIĆ MILAN and DEVČIĆ MIĆO - as the chief of police.
After the occupation the name of the co-operation was changed to PZ-Dusanovac, the director was DEVETAK LJUBAN who later became an advisor with special pay, then RADOJČIĆ MILAN became the director, PRODANOVIĆ ĐUOR was the lawyer, NESIĆ SAVO was tin charge of agriculture, MILJKOVIĆ MILAN was in charge of the mechanics workshop, and KOJIĆ MILAN from Mohovo was in charge of buying and selling.
During the occupation of Lovas the area under control of the agricultural co-operative doubled in size to about 4000 hectares, this land was taken from "Vupik" and were previously part of Opatovac, Mohovo, Šarengrad and Bapska. All the food produced from these lands was taken to Serbia and sold, this food came from a UNPA protected zone and the UNPROFOR issued papers to approve these transfers. All these transfers occurred over the account of the import-export firm owned by DEVETAK LJUBAN.
UNPROFOR came the village for the first time during April, but only to pass through the village. They did not stay in the village. The UNPROFOR contingent was composed of Russians with some Belgians who were in charge of civilian questions. When UNPROFOR troops passed through the village or brought mail to the remaining Croatians, they were always accompanied by Serbs and members of the SAO Krajina police. The UNPROFOR troops always contacted the SAO Krajina police before they came, but in the last while the Croatians had problems if they were with the UNPROFOR troops, the SAO Krajina police would maltreat them after the troops left.
The old oak forests around Jelaš were also cut down during the occupation. This wood was then taken to Serbia under the supervision of DEVETAK LJUBAN and with the approval of UNPROFOR.
During the occupation there was not one day that the village was without oil. They would unload the oil at Opatovac at the facilities of INA which were renamed Krajina Petrol.
When UNPROFOR took over control of the area the expulsion of Croatians continued, UNPROFOR did nothing to protect them.
While UNPROFOR was in control of Lovas, there have been around 50 Croats expelled, with around 30 expelled at the beginning of 1993.
On January 25, 1993 two women, a mother and daughter, were killed, KOVAČEVIĆ PAVICA (1952) and KOVAČEVIĆ IDA (age 17). They were killed in their own house on Vl. Nazor street. The were buried in the Catholic graveyard in Lovas. No one knew about this murder until January 28, 1993, when PAVLIĆ ANICA (age 55) was also killed. She was found by ORELJ BRANKO, a Serb from Osijek, who went to her house, saw that it had been searched and then followed a trail of blood to the well and found that she had been thrown into the well.
I personally went to the president of the co-operative and asked that we be allowed to go to Vukovar to retrieve the bodies of the three murdered women, they had been taken to Vukovar for autopsies. P.Š. and B.I. went to Vukovar for them and brought them back so that they could be buried in the Catholic graveyard, which was done by her brother and his sons.
After that Đ.M. and I went to the remaining Croatians in the village to organise them so that we could leave the village under UNPROFOR protection. Of the remaining Croats in the village 80 agreed to leave the village because they saw no other option. During the time of the killings they also started a massive mobilisation and these people were sent to the front, I refused once to go.
I then went with P.Đ. to UNPROFOR that they enable me to leave, but instead I was then called by HADŽIĆ GORAN, the president of the so called Serbian Krajina, and VISĆ the president of the Vukovar municipality. I was taken to them to explain why I had gone to UNPROFOR. Then HADŽIĆ GORAN asked me, as a representative of the remaining Croats, to tell him what was bothering the Croats in the village. I told him that we did not feel safe in the village, that there were

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murders, Croats were taken to the front lines, homes were pillaged and that these things could happen to us at any time. The then clearly told me that it was impossible for a group of this size could not leave because it be a big blow to their Krajina if 80 Croatian civilians were to show up in Croatia and that the world would then find out about it. As for the murders they said that we would get a document with the name(s) of the murderer(s) the next day. The following day they told me that the murderers were a Serb called "KOSTA" and his wife who came to Lovas. As for my request that the Croats be relieved of service in their army and that the Croats already taken be returned, they replied that this would be impossible.

The UNPROFOR representatives were deaf to all these requests, and instead of showing up they sent HADŽIĆ GORAN and his team.

Since I realised after this discussion that I too would be mobilised, I decided to take my wife and children and escape from Lovas. I left on February 22, 1993 across the Hungarian border to Croatia and finally Zagreb.

I give this statement of my own free will with no coercion, and by signing every page of this statement I verify it's authenticity.

In Zagreb, April 18, 1993.

PEOPLE KILLED DURING THE PERIOD 10/20/1991 TO 02/21/1993. (after the mine field)

1. Pavličić Antun
2. Pavličić Kata
3. Kovačević Antun
4. Kovačević Pavica
5. Kovačević Elvira
6. Bačlic Josip
7. Andrić Luka
8. Bodanac Manda
9. Kovačević Anica
10. Somborac Stana
11. Kovačević Franca
12. Filić Božidar
13. Svirač Božo
14. Đaković Mijo
15. Pavličić Anica
16. Pavošević Marija
17. Turkalj Ana
18. Pavlić Manda

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TESTIMONY LOV - 832

When Lovas was occupied on October 10, 1991, I was in the basement of K.J. house. PEMPER MIRKO (Croat) came to get us dressed in a JNA uniform, at around 09:00 on October 12, 1991. He took us to the collective. We were held during the day and we were allowed to go home to sleep. Some people were kept at night as well, most of these people were killed. Of the people killed I knew there were , KRIZMANIĆ VID, two brothers PAVLIĆ DARKO and ŽELJKO, KRIZMANIĆ ZORAN, KRIZMANIĆ ĐURO called "Miga" and others.

This routine continued until October 17, 1991. On October 17, 1991, at 17:30 they locked us in the yard of the collective. They searched us at the door and took whatever we had. We were searched by a Chetnik called "BOKSER - he was large, muscular, he weighed around 120 kg., without a gram of fat, and some bearded man. BOKSER beat people without mercy, and the bearded man beat us a little less. I was beat because I had batteries for a flashlight in my pocket, he accused me of using a flashlight and shooting .

The Chetniks went through the village and collected the residents, mainly Croats between 18 and 55 years of age. I think that there were about 70 of us. We had to spend the entire night sitting, unmoving, on the benches in the yard of the collective - when someone moved they would take them to the dining area and kick and punch them and beat them with metal pipes, steel wires with machine nuts on top, rifle butts. They took people away the entire night . They mounted a machine gun in front of us, and 11 Chetniks armed with automatic rifles kept guard over us. We were told that if anyone moved they would kill all of us with the machine gun.

They continued with the tortures the next morning and they beat some of the people in front of us. They would call out the name of the victim and they were taken to the middle, then they were kicked and punched and beat with metal pipes, steel wires with machine nuts on top and rifle butts.

They beat me when I was on the bench. From there we were taken in a column to a clover field, where these same Chetniks had probably placed mines. They ordered us to hold hands and walk through the clover field, as if we cutting it with our legs. Then someone stepped on a mine. The Chetniks shot at our backs, so that some people were killed by bullets from the automatic rifles. I was struck by shrapnel in the leg. We had to take the wounded to a truck.

Then they told us to disarm the mines. We had to walk in the clover field and when we came to a mine we had to disarm it. I think that we disarmed about 20 mines. We were lucky that a man, he was either a Chetnik or JNA reservist, told us how to disarm the mines, even though the other Chetniks cursed him for helping the "Ustasha", they said that he should let us all die. That reservist was the only Chetnik in a JNA uniform, they called him SAŠA and he was about 20 years old. At the end he said that he would mark the mines and that they let us go, that enough of us had died already.

When we finished with the disarming we had to sit in a canal with our hands on our heads. Then the bearded man, who searched us at the door of the collective, came over to me and attacked me because I had not told them that I was wounded. He kicked and punched me, he beat me with his rifle butt and whatever else he could reach. I did not tell them that I was wounded because I thought they were going to kill all the wounded. I was surprised when F.S. stood up and started yelling at the Chetnik to leave me alone, and he asked him what he was going to do with me and where was their TV coverage to show what they were doing to the Croats. The Chetnik said that he would kill him, but F.S. laughed in his face and pointed at his forehead to show him where to shoot. I latter talked to F.S., he himself does not know where he got the courage to do what he did.

We were taken from the minefield back to the collectives yard, and we continued to go on forced labour details. The Chetnik NIKOLA told us that he would kill us with an axe. I believe that NIKOLA (he was blonde, with long hair, he latter cut his hair) would have done that if the other Chetnik there, GANE a special forces member from Niš, had not convinced him not to.

I have to say that the Chetniks and the JNA soldiers were working together. The Chetniks would beat and torture us, and the Niš special forces members took us to the mine field to kill us.

Now I will return to the beginning to name the victims of the tortures. I know that the following were taken from the collectives yard and tortured in the dining area : T.J. , S.L. , B.P. and some others. T.J. had his hair cut by the Chetnik PETRONIJE, who used a bayonet to cut his hair in front of us all. He made him sit down and then he cut his long hair with the bayonet. When his hair was cut we could see the head wound he received from a steel wire with a machine nut. His hair was cut after he was beat in the dining area. He was latter wounded in the mine field and he died due to his wounds in the ambulance towards Šid.

They would beat the victims every morning in front of everyone else. The called our names off a list made by the Chetnik they called "NOVINAR", he spoke with a Montenegrin accent. The victims would stand in the middle and the Chetniks would beat them with metal pipes, steel wires with machine nuts on top, rifle butts, and they would also kick and punch them. The Chetnik PETRONIJE would stab the victims with a

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knife. I know that he stabbed three people : BOĐANAC BOŠKA - he was shot dead by the Chetniks on the way to the mine field because he said that he could not walk any farther. I was behind him, puddles of blood remained behind him on the ground as he walked. I went around him and then I heard the gunshots as they killed him. KRIZMANIĆ ALOJZIJA, who was massacred the same day at a chapel at the graveyard along with three others : LUKETIĆ PERO and ĐUKA (father and son). L.A. was tortured along with them but I do not know what happened to him. The Chetnik PETRONIJA also stabbed M.M. . That morning they beat the following people in front of all of us : B.P. , S.M. , S.I. , S.D. , T.J. , H.M , B.I. , B.N. , V.I. , B.B. , K.M. , P.M. ...

I sat and waited for my turn to be beaten. When I was called, DEVETAK LJUBAN asked who I was. I replied that I was the son-in-law of H.M . He put me in the second group. DEVETAK LJUBAN decided who would be beaten. While they were beating one group the other group was forced to watch, this was done to scare them. Along with DEVETAK LJUBAN the following local residents were also there : PRODANOVIĆ ĐURO, TEPAVAC MILAN, TEPAVAC ZORAN, RADOVIĆ MILE (from Mirkovac, I was his best man at his wedding), VORKAPIĆ MILAN - called "TRNDO", almost all of the Serbs in the village were uniformed. Amongst the Croatians in JNA uniforms were : SOMBORAC VLADO, RENDULIĆ MILAN - called "BUVA" and maybe some others.

The following people died on the mine field : SABLJAK MARKO, SABLJAK IVAN, SOLAKOVIĆ DARKO, ŠALAJ MIJO, PALIJAN MIJO, BOŽIĆ ZLATKO, BADANJAK PERO, BADANJAK NIKOLA, BALIĆ LUKA, HODAK MATO, KRALJEVIĆ IVAN, PANJIK ZLATKO, PANJIK ANTUN, MARKOVIĆ MARINKO, CONJAR IVAN, ŠTRANGAREVIĆ SLAVKO and KUZMIĆ SLAVKO. V.I. was surely killed that day, but we do not know whether it was in the mine field or the village. TURKALJ JOSIP died of his wounds on the way to Šid, and BOĐANAC BOŠKO died on the way to the mine field.

Of the local residents dressed in JNA uniforms who, together with the Chetniks, were at the mine field were the following : KRESOJA ILIJA, RENDULIĆ MILAN - "BUVA". I can not state with full confidence that they shot at our backs then.

After DEVETAK LJUBAN put me in the second group, in the collective's yard, the Chetnik PETRONIJE came to me and beat me. He beat me with his fists. My nose was already broken by the Chetnik MARKO from Novi Sad.

I was beaten by DEVČIĆ MIĆO, about 20 days after the mine field massacre, when he took me to the police station (at the house of KESERA BORE) for questioning. He asked me where the three transport trucks with weapons were, which Croats were supposed to massacre Serbs and other such questions. Useless questions, but they gave him an excuse to beat me.

I saw when then brought MARINOVIĆ ZVONKO. The Chetniks took him to the house of FRANČIŠKOVIĆ IVICA (the White Eagles had their headquarters there). The next day I heard that he died of a heart attack. ZVONKO was taken out of the house of S.V.

Along with the people I mentioned there were many others killed. On the first day, October 10, 1991, about 20 people were killed in the houses, and after the mine field incident many people, including women, were killed.

The witness is willing to give testimony to any court that requests it, as well as in the media.

JOVANOVIĆ JOSIP - JOSO was imprisoned at the collective, he was tortured and then latter killed.

About 20 people were released from the collective before the mine filed massacre.

By signing the testimony the giver confirms it's authenticity, that it was given under no coercion, and that the written testimony matches the verbal testimony.

In Lovran, May 7, 1993.

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Department of Information and Research
Ministry of Health of the Republic of Croatia

Testimony DALJ - 797

(a Croat, displaced person from Vukovar, eye-witness of firing squad execution and massacre in Vukovar)

On November 21, 1991 we were forced to surrender to save the civilians, the military police then put us in trucks and drove us towards Trpinja and Bobota. At the butcher shop "ŽIVONIJA" a group of about 35 people was thrown out. I then heard gunshots and these people never returned. Amongst the people taken out was ŠPEHAR MILE and MLINARIĆ BOŽO, they were in the truck near me so I saw when they were removed, otherwise we had to keep our heads down and our hands behind our backs. Some women and young girls were also taken out. We arrived in the town of Dalj at about 03:00. There we were forced into a hall, but again some people were removed from the group. Amongst the Chetniks there I recognised the following : AMIDŽIĆ GRUJO, a lawyer from Vukovar, who carried a book beneath his arm as he took people from the group, MAČVAN ZDRAVKO, a former policeman from Vukovar, and UZELAC ĐORĐE - the chief of the police station in Vukovar. They would separate people from the group by pointing at them and they were removed.
On November 22, 1991 after midnight they took my group out to be shot, in the rain. I was taken by MAČVAN ZDRAVKO who said "March Ustasha".
There were 6 other people in my group, but I cannot remember their names. The other group was taken by NIKIĆ DRAGAN and SAVIĆ SAVA from Savulje. MAČVAN took us to a meadow where there were two tractors, one had the equipment necessary for digging and the other was equipped for earth moving, but I was not allowed to look left or right. There was a massive grave dug out in which I saw many corpses. In front of me was the group led by SAVIĆ, I saw as he killed everyone in his group with a Kalashnikov. These people were shot next to this canal-grave and as they were shot their bodies would fall into the grave.
After those people were killed a second group came that was led by NIKIĆ DRAGAN from Savulje and SAVIĆ. As I was waiting in line, I saw how NIKIĆ DRAGAN killed the people with a chainsaw.
The canal was on an incline so that the bodies would roll into the grave. With the chainsaw he would cut off the peoples arms, legs, heads or even cut them in two, whatever he wanted.
I watched as these body parts fell to the ground and twitched like a slaughtered chicken. As I was watching I was not thinking about anything, I was merely waiting to be killed. NIKIĆ DRAGAN slaughtered a young girl in my hall, she was a blonde by the name of JELENA, daughter of JELIĆ MILKA, but I do not know her fathers surname. He grasped her hair, lifted her head and cut off her head with a knife, he then threw the head through the door into a puddle, and he left the body in the hall. That girl never even got to say "a" and she was dead. Then NIKIĆ said "I have 500 Ustasha bitches on my soul and I have room for 5000 more". While he was talking he looked me in the eyes. When my turn came, ZDRAVKO MAČVAN took a knife in one hand and lifted my head, with his other hand he ran a knife along my throat and I fell into the grave with the other dead bodies, and then he shot me twice. I still have two bullet scars on my right upper arm. The cross on my rosary saved my life. That cross was made of metal and happened to come between my throat and the knife, it was almost cut in two, only one edge remained intact, and the cross became embeded in my throat. After me there was another group that was led by GOJKOKVIĆ MILAN called "ŠVABO" and JEROTIĆ ZORAN, I am ZORAN's baptismal godfather. More bodies fell on me and around me. They shot G.J. twice but the bullets passed through his right ear and through part of his throat, but he remained alive. While still in the grave I felt blood gushing out of my throat. The rain was falling and you could not see the sky or the ground, I did not hear any more gunshots, so I decided to get out of the grave. When I tried to pull myself out, I felt the dead bodies rolling down. I pulled myself out slowly, but was surprised when someone near me moved. It was G.J., who pulled himself out after me. When I got out of the grave, I was spotted by a man on the road. It was either S. or J. from Gunara, who said "Grandpa, come here so that I can help you". I went over and he said "What a hole, what is in it". He then reached over and pulled the cross from my neck. The blood began coming out faster, he put a whole pack of paper handkerchiefs on the wound and said "Grandpa, go now and do not lift your head because you have a big wound, and go as far as you can".

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I went away from him and came across some soldiers who took me in. They put me onto a bus, where I recognised S.M., one of our people, who had also been taken prisoner, I did not manage to see the others. They threw me and 24 others out of the bus at the bridge at Bogojevo.
Here we were met by MAČVAN VESELIN from Bršadin, who took us to a hall, where I saw some young Chetniks with cocades who were nailing people to beams by putting nails through their hands or feet.
I saw at least 10 people that were nailed up. On the side were the older Chetniks who were drinking "rakija" and they were holding axes. In one corner beside them I saw some severed heads, only one had long hair, all the others had short hair. Once we entered the hall they said "Look what is awaiting you, Ustasha. Go stand in line". An officer called PERICA came into the hall and told six of us to go outside and to get onto a bus. We went to Begejci, where I was kept for three months. It was November 23, 1991 and there were around 1600 in the hall, where I stayed for 2 days and then I was transferred to a clinic. Here I found Z.. , Z.. , T. , B. , and N. who was brought in because he received very harsh treatment. After about 4 days they brought in a tall man who weighed about 100 kg. , he was beaten so bad that he died between me and B.
There was a Dr. ĐURANAC who covered him with a blanket and said that died of heart problems, but I saw that his jacket was ripped by all the fierce blows he received. After 4-5 days a FRANO called "CRNOGORAC" was also beaten to death and left to die in our room.
Somewhere around February, maybe January 21, 1992, I was transferred to Niš. It was difficult for me there, I was taken out every second day and beaten. My entire back had burst open from the beatings, my legs had bruises and the soles of my feet were 20 cm. thick.
On March 22, 1992, I was transferred to Sremska Mitrovica. Here I was beaten, questioned and threatened.
On May 22, 1992, I was exchanged at Lipovac.
To this day I still have a wound from the attempted execution. The wound frequently breaks open and does not want to heal. There was more that happened but I cannot remember all the details.

By signing this statement the giver guarantees it's authenticity and that the statement was given without coercion, and the statement taker confirms that the written statement matches the given statement.

In Zagreb, May 5, 1993

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Testimony SIL- 878

I was born on October 21, 1925 in Slunj. I am a housewife, Croatian by nationality.

After the occupation of Slunj and it's surroundings, in Gornji Popovac there remained only 16 of us. When the Chetniks arrived in the village for the first time, we escaped into the woods because of the heavy shooting. When it all stopped, we returned to our houses. One week later, two Chetniks entered my house, they asked me if I had anybody else in my house, where my children were, and why I was alone. This happened several times but they did not do anything to me.

On February 17, 1993, two unknown men came to my house. One of them was young - about 25 years of age, he had a beard. The other one was about 10 years older. First they forced me to stand near the wall and then they hit me with rifles. Then they started to touch me by saying: "Would you like to do it?" I asked: "What?" Then both of them raped me, punched me and then they left.

On April 17, 1993 I spent the night at my house. I only slept at my house occasionally after that. Somebody hit my door and I had to open it. There were three Chetniks who wore caps with Chetnik marks. They searched for a knife so that they could slaughter me. As they did not find it, one of them took some pliers from a cupboard and he wanted to pull my teeth out. However, the older one told the other two not to do it. When one of them did not know what to do, he took matches and set fire to my bed. The older man stopped it again. Then the most violent one (he had a small beard) raped me again. When they left, I went to Slunj, to UNPROFOR and I told them what they had done to me.

After the first time (on February 17) I went to the Serbian police but I was not allowed to speak to the higher ranking officers. So I went to UNPROFOR but they did not understand me. So I wrote down on a piece of paper who I was and what had happened to me. The following they came to my house with a translator (a Serbian woman) and I did not understand what she was telling them. Finally, they asked me if I was Croatian or Serbian.

As all the residents of the village had been maltreated, all of us went again to UNPROFOR and asked them to protect us. They told us that they could not to protect us and the only thing they could do was to transfer all of us to Slunj. But we could not accept that.

Before they raped me, they took away my TV, radio and killed two of my pigs.
P.M. was raped too. She was separated from her children and her father-in-law and uncle were locked in a room when they raped her. When we reported it to UNPROFOR and to the Serbian police, they took us to identify the perpetrators. M.P. recognised three of them.

Over UNPROFOR and the ICRC I was exchanging messages with my daughter who was in Zagreb. I cultivated the soil the entire time because I had a horse and I also slaughtered pigs. The Chetniks came to take meat and other food but mostly they took the "rakija".

I saw that life was becoming impossible so I prepared the papers so that I could leave for Zagreb. One day I was near my water-well when I saw a car approaching my house. I started to run but I saw that an unknown man and a neighbour were walking towards me. I stopped and they told me not to be afraid. The unknown man was a Serb who knew my daughter and he told me to be careful and not to sleep at my house. He forbid me to tell anyone that he visited me. So I slept at my neighbours house which was a little bit further from mine, so it was safer.
On May 3, 1993 UNPROFOR arrived, with a translator, and they told me to get ready and that the following day I would go to Karlovac. Then 8 of us from Gornji Popovac were driven to Karlovac.

By signing each page of the statement I confirm it's authenticity. I gave this statement without coercion.

In Zagreb, May 31, 1993

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D. I. M. H.
Departmentof Information and Research
Ministry of Health of the Republic of Croatia

Testimony DVOR - 781

(Croatian woman, born on 1928, she was in "living wall", eye-witness of the mass killing of civilians by Chetniks)

On July 26, 1991, in the morning, at about 9 a.m., after the village was encircled, the Chetniks entered the part of the village where there were Croatian houses and began to chase the people out from their houses. We could hear howls, cries and gunshots. I got out of the basement where I was with my husband and I saw the people from Zamlaća with their hands up. At this moment two armed Chetniks approached me and chased me onto the road and soon after that they brought my husband too.

They started to chase us in the direction of Struga. They entered each house and took out everybody they found. They shouted to us: "Go ahead Tudman's people, go now to your Tudman!" We were walking with our hands up and they followed us with a canon which was situated on a truck.

A large group of Chetniks walked behind us, but many more of them were walking along the surrounding meadows and hills, in order to reach Struga where were the Croatian policemen situated.

There were about 40 of us in this "LIVING WALL", I walked behind my son Dragan in order to protect him with my body. I was afraid that something would happen to him, my only wish was that he stayed alive.

We walked from Zamlača to Struga from the morning until the afternoon even though it was only a few kilometres away. When we arrived in Struga, the Chetniks again started to enter houses and chase the people towards us, into the "living wall". In one of the houses they asked the people for "Serbian water"

There I saw when they pulled out three Croatian policemen, forced them to crawl to the road, then they stripped them to the skin and beat them them to death (they killed them).

When the Chetniks arrived at the centre of the village, Milan Blažević jumped out from behind some wall, jumped onto the canon and detonated some bombs at the same time. We all fell down onto the road and I rolled down into a trench and there I started to vomit blood. I thought that I would suffocate.

I saw my son lying on the road up ahead. I thought that he was dead. But, the JNA appeared from somewhere, collected the wounded persons and drove them away. I looked for a shelter and I spent that night in Struga with some other women because I was not heavily injured. I heard later that many Chetniks were killed in that attack, and among our people Manda Megić was killed.

Our people were driven to Dvor, for bandaging and there they killed three of them : Milan Bartolović, Milan Pušić and Pero Špančić. M.M. managed to escape.

One group of our people, my son Dragan was among them, were driven to Bosanski Novi where they received first aid and they spent the night in the police station. After that they were driven to Kostajnica.

Some other women and I were driven to Bosanski Novi and a doctor examined us because we all were wounded due to shrapnel.

Later I went back to Dvor and I stayed at my cousin's house. I did not know anything about my husband and son. I stayed there for the next two days and then I went to Kostajnica.

I gave the statement without coercion and by signing each page of this statement I confirm the authenticity of the above written.

In Zagreb April 21, 1993

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D. I. M. H.
Department of Information and Research
Ministry of Health of the Republic of Croatia

Testimony DVOR - 806

(a Croatian woman, born on 1971, student, witness of the mass killing when she was one of the persons used as a "living wall")

When Chetniks on July 26, 1991, entered Struga I was alone at home. Before that they attacked tha village we heard shootings and mortar shells were fallinig on the village and on my house too, and I did not dare to leave the house. When the shooting became a little bit calmer, from the direction of Zamlača I heard howling and singing. Soon after that I heard somebody shooting at my door and entering my house. I was very afraid, I was sitting in my brother's room and waiting. They were opening door in the house and they found me. BORISLAV LJUBIŠIĆ, I knew him well - was my friend, entered the room and said (he was suprised): "This is you. Get out, we will not do anything to you."
At the same time the other two men who were with him were searching the house and when they could not open wardrobes, they would shood at them.
I get out on the stairs and then I saw a group of people from Zamlača, women were distracted, men were covered with blood and beaten, with their hands up. Chetniks pushed me on the road and they were standing all around us with their guns prepaired to fire, some of them were laying on the road with machine guns. As soon as I approached the road, one of them shouted: "Look, she has a cross, throw it now!" These who were standing around me, I knew almost all of them: DEJAN LJUBIŠIĆ, NENAD KORIZMA - called "PICI", PREDRAG KORIZMA, PREDRAG ORLOVIĆ, LEONARDO JANKOVIĆ, DRAGAN PAŠIĆ, ALEKSANDAR BODLOVIĆ and a man called "VILA" told me (e. i. some of them told me) to take off my cross alone, to throw it on the ground and to tread on. I did not do it because at the moment somebody ran out of my house with my brother's walkie-talkie (he had this as a toy when he was little boy).

However, they accused me that I was connected with Ustashe over the walkie - talkie. They were forcing me to confess that I had given information about their strongholds to Ustashe. In the same time one of them was hiting me with rifle so hard that I was tottering.

My grandmother was standing on the road and shouting them to leave me alone, that I had nothing to do with this. Then they pushed me towards the column on the road. I joined the column and we all moved. All this time they were shooting over our heads. They followed us with an antiaircraft canon which was situated on a truck and they were opening fire at the houses and our church. When they hit the church it was real celebration.

In the meantime, some people in the group were wounded but due to shock and fear they did not noticed it. Only when somebody told them that they were bleeding, they registreted it.

As all the time they were shooting over our head, we tried to gather us in the group but they were ordering us to go left or right in order to protect them better. When we reached my cousin's house there they found her and her mother and also chased them out but M. cursed them their Chetnik mother and she payed it later. They broke her teeth, put a bom into her mouth and beat her All the time they were asking her about her brother. We kept on walking and we arrived to the house where they found three our policemen who had to surrender or the Chetniks would kill someone among us. They were forced to crawl through a courtyard to the road where the Chetniks stripped them, beat them with helmets over their heads, with rifles, legs. When they beat them, they ordered them to run toward a field and then all the Chetniks who were there shot at them and they killed them.

After that we moved again toward the centre of Struga and whole the time the Chetniks were shouting: "Hands up, your people would not shoot at you, they are yours, Tuđman's people!" Three Chetniks dressed the uniforms of killed policemen and after that one of the Chetniks entered a house and got out to the balcony. Other chetniks started to shot at him by shouting: "Look, there is one more Ustasha!" Then he said: "Do not shoot, you fool, that is me!"
All the time they were drinking "rakija" which they had with them. When we arrived to the centre of the village I saw my brother behind one house. He wanted to join us, he probably did not see the Chetniks behind us but T. gave him a sign to run away. When he started to run Chetniks notice him and started to shoot but he managed to escape. At this moment we started to run away in all

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directions from the column. Me and four other people jumped in a trench and we were waiting for what would happen.

A lot of people were laying on the road and asking for help but nobody could not approach them because they were shooting all the time. Half an hour later we got out of the trench and we hid us in a shed. In the meantime Chetniks run away because some of them were killed due to bomb threwn by M.B. I heard later that my grandmother was killed due to this bomb too.

I give the statement without coercion and by signing each page of the statement I confirm the authenticity of the above written.

In Zagreb, May 5, 1993

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Department of Information and Research
Ministry of Health of the Republic of Croatia

TESTIMONY GLI - 820

(a Croatian woman, displaced person from Viduševac near Glina, born on 1937, witness of slaughtering)

On the morning of October 1, 1991 soldiers of the Croatian army came to my house and asked me why I did not want to go to the upper part of the village.
Around 10:30 the shooting and shelling started, some came from the direction of the Croatian army positions in Gornji Viduševac, but the majority came from the direction of Glina where the Chetnik units were. I remained in my house the entire time and did not venture out.
All at once I saw the house of GAŠLJEVIĆ MARKO become enveloped in dust, a grenade had fallen on his house as well as the house of ŠKOLNEKOVIĆ MATO. Immediately after that I saw a tank at the intersection as it fired at my house. The door and window frames were blown out and to this day I still do not know how I stayed alive. The room remained bloody because I was wounded in the leg and hip.
I saw as the Chetniks drove a tank behind my house and fired on the barn of my neighbour ROMA LUKA, after which they drove the tank into my yard. From my yard they fired at the house of GAŠLJEVIC LUKA, after which they drove the tank onto the road again. They did not touch my house again and no one even looked out of the tank. Then a armoured vehicle showed up shooting the entire time. A few of them came out of the vehicle and headed off in the direction of the vineyards towards Solna, they returned a few minutes later leading a Croatian soldier by the name of IVICA from Podravina. They brought him to the well in my yard and tied his shirt over his eyes, threw him to the ground and killed him. The guards on the path were SUŽNJEVIĆ PETAR and STAMBOLINA DUŠAN and a the man who did the killing was BADŽO from Glina, who used to cut wood before the war. I watched all of this from my house. Before they brought the soldier, I saw how the Chetniks found my wounded neighbour JAGU ROM, and put him into a car and drove off.
I stayed in my house that night and the next day, I did not go anywhere. Instead I drank every tablet for relaxation that I had in my house. The next day I left my house and went towards the cornfields to escape, there I saw the corpses of two Croatian soldiers, both were from Zagorje.
I hid in the cornfields for 2 days, until Thursday morning. There was shooting that entire time. On Thursday I went among the houses in the village but saw no one, only the livestock was wandering around. I then went through the vineyards and came to Žiniće, where I found Ž.J. and her daughter K. . J. was unable to walk so K. and I carried her towards the hedges. We then saw as the Chetniks set fire to their house.
The Chetniks were walking throughout the village and shooting. The three of us spent the night in the forest. At dawn we went towards Solna carrying the disabled J. . When we came to Velika Solna, we found a woman who said soldiers in grey uniforms (Chetniks), had been at her house. We drank some water there and headed out towards Mali Solna, where we met G.J. and stayed in his house.
Every day for the next two and a half months we would hide in the forest during the day and stay n the house at night. During that time the Chetniks were pillaging and taking away the livestock or whatever else they found. They killed BABIĆ JANA and another woman, who we called "ROVAČKA" she was thrown into a well. I buried all three of them.
In Velika Solna the Chetniks killed BOKIĆ STJEPAN and his wife MILKA, who we found in their yard. One day when I was hiding in the forest, I saw the barn of my relative burning, so I went towards the house of G.J. . As I entered the yard I saw two helmeted Chetniks. I wanted to run away, but they noticed me and started to come towards me. They asked me if I had a husband, and I replied that I had neither a husband nor children. They also asked me who was in the surrounding houses, but I told them that I did not know anything. They left and I went towards the forest again.
Two days later I was again caught by the Chetniks. It was raining heavily that day and we were going towards the house of K.L. and K.J., because L. was very ill. We had only just arrived when the Chetniks showed up and forced all of us out of the house. Amongst us was : K.J. , R.M. , B.J. , B.P. , R.I. , G.Z. and me, and the Chetniks asked us who we were and where we were from. I did not tell

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them that I was from Viduševac, but lied and said I was from Glina. Two of them said that they would take me back to Glina the next time they came by, but I did not wait for them.
Three days after that, our reconnoitre G.I. came and took us across the Kuna river by boat. It was November 12, 1991, and the others in the boat were R.I. , B.P. , B.J. , G.Z. and some other woman who I did not know.

By signing every page of this statement I verify it's authenticity, and that it was given without any coercion.

May 12, 1993.

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TESTIMONY GLINA - 965

(a Croat, displaced person from Glina, his wife is killed, daughter in prison)

The day the Chetniks had occupied the municipality of Glina, I was at home(in the village of Joševici) with my wife Š. and daughter M. My daughter and me have lived more in Zagreb than in Joševici, because M. had studied and I had worked there.
The first days of the occupation the četniks went through the village to collect the people's weapons. At that time they also burnt KREŠTALIĆ GINA and her brother-in-law ĐURO in their house, while they killed her husband KREŠTALIĆ NIKOLA in the yard next to the water-well.
GINA was of Serbian nationality. When a group of četniks had come to the house of the KREŠTALIĆ's and requested their car, she told them that she was also Serbian and that she would not give them the car, after what the četniks killed GINA, her husband and her brother-in-law.
After that event groups of chetniks would often come to the village. At day-time they would come and turn everything upside down in our homes, at night they would come to plunder and set fire to our houses.
On the 16th of December, after the Serbs had great losses at Gračanica in the fights against HV (Croatian Army), a group of chetniks came to our village and killed 21 inhabitants of Joševice, that is all the people who did not manage to flee from their knife. This were mainly old people, but also four younger ones. After that had happened I was very afraid to be in the house, so I slept outside, while my wife and daughter went to neighbours or to houses where we thought it to be more sure.
This was also the time when M.K. came to the region of Glina, to my daughter, and hid in our house. One evening chetniks came and set fire to the hay-stack in our yard. When my daughter saw what they had done, she took her pistol which she kept underneath her pillow and shot in the direction of the chetniks who at once ran away. The next morning, however, their police came, grabbed me and asked whether it was me who had shot the evening before. I answered that it was not me who had shot and that I did not know who had done it, but unfortunately they searched the whole house, found the pistol in my daughter's bed and confirmed that it had been shot with this very pistol. Immediately they took my daughter to jail in Glina. They kept her there for some days, but after a short questioning they let her go home.
In the meanwhile the Serbs would often come to my house and everytime they would beat me. Once they came and requested some fuel, but I told them that I did not have any fuel anymore. They searched everythere, found a tank of 20 l and beat me. A few times they came when my wife was alone at home, once they beat her. All that they did mainly because they suspected M.K. hiding at our place.
These conditions became unbearable after some time and so my daughter decided to get M.K. somehow with the help of the UNPROFOR to Croatia. One day in January 1993, early in the morning, M.K. and my daughter left for Roviška, where the UNPROFOR have a check-point, however, the "Krajina-police" awaited them there and arrested them regardless to the presence of the UNPROFOR. They took them to jail in Glina and tried them for espionage.
My daughter was sentenced to 11 years in jail and M.K. to 15 years. After that trial we were allowed to visit M. in jail. Every second Tuesday my wife went to visit her. They were only allowed to talk in the presence of a guard. M. told my wife that she was registered as a prisoner by the IRC and that she was not maltreated.
After many sleepless nights, one evening I decided to sleep in my house again. This was on the 31th of March, 1993. It seemed to me that the very moment I had fallen asleep, I was wakened by the barking of dogs. I stood up and looked through the window. In the moonlight I could see a group of armed people. I dressed very quickly and called my wife to get up as well, but she slept deeply and so I left the house thinking that they would not do any harm to her. I calmly went to a forest that is near the house and hid there. After some time I heard shots coming from the direction where my house was. When there was silence again I decided to return to my house.
However, entering the yard I first had to see the dogs lying dead there. In the house, my wife was lying dead on our bed. Her head was all dashed to pieces and I also noticed that she must have been raped. I was very shocked by that sight and that very moment I realized that I could not go on living here anymore. After many difficulties I managed to get a coffin and bury my wife with dignity.

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I requested the UNPROFOR's assistance to get me to Croatia and thus I was transported together with 20 other Croats from the region of Glina to Sisak. It was very hard for me to leave and know that my daughter is still there in jail, living in life-threatening conditions.

Zagreb, the 18th of June, 1993

D I M H.
Department of Information and Research
Ministry of Health of the Republic of Croatia

Testimony PETR - 550

(testimony about execution by fire sqad of 23 persons in Petrinja on September 16, 1991, given by Croat from Glina, born on 1951)

My name is ....., I lived in Petrinja and in August 1991 I was mobilized as member of the Croatian Army. Together with other 23 persons I watched over the Petrinja hospital. On September 16, during the second attack against Petrinja, perfonned by local Chetniks and ex-JNA who opened mortar shell fire at hospital, we lost connection with other members of the Croatian Army. So we started to retreat towards Župić and Nebojan. When we arrived the Gavrilović villa, on the right side of the Gavrilović vineyard, we were encircled by Chetniks. They wore camouflage uniforms and we thought they were members of the Croatian Army. When they encircled us we had to put away all our weapons. They ordered us to lay down with our hands on the head. Then they searched our pockets and took away anything we had and after that they lined us again and ordered us to take off our boots and uniform. As soon as they captured us, Mišo Svoboda, commander of my unit, was killed because he was recognized by a Chetnik of middle age, with moustaches, strong who wore a black ribbonn on his head. This Chetnik recognized him and asked him: "What are you doing here?" and killed him with burst of fire. As I was among first three men who had had to turn their back in order to be executed by fire sqad, as soon as I heard burst of fire and when I felt that the other two were falling on the ground I threw myselft into the bush close to whom I was standing. I was shot with bullet at right arm and at the right side of the chest. When I fell down I broke my right hand. I was conscious and I heard them shooting at other people. Vlado Žugalj, Zdenko Grgec, Ivica Kovačević, Marijan Pečirko (postman - cvilian) and others were killed. M.A. was wounded at the arm and he told me that he could not help me to stand up because he was wounded too. As the night was falling down and they had left us because they believed everybody was dead, those who were wounded and could walk, they left. I stayed there for the whole night and in the morning the Chetniks arrived to search corpses. They took away all the gold they found on these corpses. They found me alive. One of the approached me , turned me with his leg and told: "This one is still alive." Then they found I.C. who was alive too and asked them for water. When they entered some weekend cottage, I saw that there was nobody but me. I stood up and moved along the hill towards Petrinja. When I reached the nearest house (it was the house of a Croatian who knew me) his daughter ran out and she asked his neighbour who had a car to drive me to the ambulatory of the Croatian Army. There I got the first aid and after that I was transferred to the Sisak hospital.

By signing each page of this statement I confirm it's authenticity. The statement is given without coercion.

In Karlovac, March 11, 1993

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TESTIMONY MED - 753

(a Croatian woman, born on 1927, from Medvide, survived a massacre in which 9 civilians were killed, now she is a displaced person)

On the 9th of February, 1993, in the afternoon, I heard some shooting not knowing what was going on, as it was usual for the younger chetniks to shoot around. That night nobody came or bothered us. The next day I heard about the tragedy of my neighbours, who were living about 400 meters eastwards from me. The first information I got from my brother M.B., who came for some corn and wheat to J.E., who survived this tragedy. My brother M. had seen everything. Me and the others of the E...family did not want to get there because we were afraid. J.E., the neighbour of the killed brought additional information about the tragedy (daughter Mira was killed, one woman, S., survived). He had not had the strength to see himself what happened, he was told about it by M.B. and I.P. (the sister of the killed). At about 11 o'clock that day a commission from Obrovac arrived - there was one doctor with policemen accompanying him (there were about two or even more men).
They came in a small car and stopped by the four of us asking for the corpses. We showed them the way and also went silently in the direction of the killed. At one o'clock or even half past twelve that commission returned to Obrovac. I noticed them, but nobody asked me anything nor do I know what they had been doing. I was still shocked by that awful crime. J. returned and asked me whether they had taken the corpses with them, but I did not know anything as nobody had told me anything about it.
The next day (Thursday) on eleven o'clock a small car stopped at our house and asked where the corpses were.
I said that they are 400 meters eastwards. I was told that a lorry would come who I have to show the way to the killed. We were waiting for the lorry, but it did not come. Later we were told that it had some problems because of the bad road. We (me, J. and St.) left in the direction of the dead. Arriving there, we met I., her husband J. and their children (J., S. and M.),then the Serbs J., Z.P., the wife of S.(S. is the brother of killed D.), M.L. and afterwards comes the mother of killed D.P., and with her M.V. from the village of Parčić and M.Š. married to B. (a cousin of the killed),and together with them Đ.S., wife to B. The lorry comes only to our house, and the small car, which preceded the lorry left towards the East to the village of Tuk, where it collected two corpses (Janko and Jeka E.). They were killed in front of their yard while trying to get to their brother D. At the same time the six corpses lying in D.'s house were collected and transported together with the two corpses from Tuk. When taking them into the lorry, they at the same time wrapped them into plastic bags. The whole action lasted till one o'clock. They then left towards the West. On their way they collected also the corpse of killed Šimica E. married to J. (an old woman of 88). With these corpses they left for the grave- yard (a catholic grave-yard).

Of those who had been witnessing all this, only J.P., the husband of I., and his cousin M.P. decide to go to the grave-yard. The others remained where they were, although nobody forbade them to go, but they were afraid.
I. was forbade by her husband not to go, because he thought that she would not be able to bear the sight (she suffers from a heart disease).
According to the wish of their relatives and to what those said who buried them (J. and M. P.), the corpses were buried in family graves. After the burial J.P. together with his family according to an old Serbian tradition gave a funeral feast for those who were at their house (soup, meat, salad and wine). We stayed at our houses. Nobody tortured us, but daily people came and took our material goods with them (cattle and everything worth in the house). These had been young armed people clad in uniforms, with Serbian military caps (šajkača).
Always two of them were regularly coming to my house. I was very much afraid and so I gave them everything they wanted.
These things went on till the arrival of the UNPROFOR.
Two soldiers from the UNPROFOR came accompanied by a woman-interpreter after 15 days, in the afternoon, about 3 o'clock.The local criminal Dušan Skokna called Đule accompanied them, too. Dušan

told the UNPROFOR-soldiers that there is no life anymore and that they should be moved to another place. The interpreter asked me whether we would like to leave, to which I answered that we would like to leave at once if possible. The interpreter said then that she would talk about that with the two UNPROFOR-soldiers. After some consultation with the two soldiers she turned to me and said that it was not possible to leave at once, but that those who would like to leave would be informed at some time later.

Thanks God they came the next day at about three o'clock in the afternoon and took all of us (me, my husband M. - a very ill person, 74 years, N.E., his wife S. and his daughter B.; there were five of us). In the meantime, from the 9th of February, 1993, till our leave, my aunt J. got lost somewhere (thanks God she is alive, as she had been hiding at her family and now she is in V. nearby Knin, waiting to leave). They took the five of us into their car, a Landrover. There was not enough space in the car, so they came the next day for J.E., who hid at the house of the S.'s (the nephew of D.). On the 24th of February, 1993, they transported us to Radoljice (municipality of Benkovac).

They took us to a private house and guarded us. The inhabitants of Radoljice visited us, there were about thirty of them. The UNPROFOR and the inhabitants of this village brought us food. We had our own clothes, we were even allowed to cook on our own. We stayed there for about 20 days. My husband was a very ill person and so he died on the 2nd of March, 1993 in Radoljice. We buried them on the grave-yard of Radoljice.

On the 15th of March, 1993 (Monday), the UNPROFOR suddenly transported us to Knin. They assigned a place for us there and gave us some clothing to cover ourselves with it. The next day, on the 16th of March, 1993 (Tuesday), they transported us in four busses from Knin to Otočac. We joined the other people from the camp in Vrpolje. The bus drivers wore uniforms with chetnik tokens. The Red Cross was waiting for us after we had arrived from Otočac to free territory. After that we came to Zadar.

We arrived at the Branimir coast-stationary of the Red Cross in Zadar at about half past eleven in the evening.

My children (two sons and three daughters) were waiting for me there and I accomodated myself at my son's place.

On the 22nd of March, 1993, the priest A.E., who is interested in our fate, visits me. I told him what I could in those moments. Unfortunately I had to confirm the death of his brother D., his sister J, his daughter-in-law D., his son-in-law J. and other relatives.

All these events, which began in the year of 1990 and lasted all to my departure on the 24th of February, 1993, left a deep scar in me - grief, trauma, uncertainty and things alike (but thanks God, in all this derangement I remained by my senses and remember everything). Unfortunately, I remember the worst things, too.

Never in my whole life I thought that something like that may ever happen. Those who were killed as well as those who remained alive, we had been all equal to the criminals in our region. I cannot tell anything more than that I am happy to be alive and to have been in the position to delight my children with my arrival at Zadar.

I cannot help those who were killed by criminal lawlessness except by praying for their souls to be saved and for those who committed all these awful crimes I pray that God gives them a chance for conversion.

By signing this testimony I confirm its authenticity and that this testimony had been given without any coercion.

Zadar, the 6th of April, 1993

/...

D. I. M. H.
Department of Information and Research
Ministry of Health of the Republic of Croatia

Testimony MED. - 627

(a Croatian woman, born on 1931, from Medvede, survivor of the massacre of 9 civilians)

On February 9, 1991, at about 5 p.m., when night was falling, my daughter and I moved towards our neighbour's house. On the way we met our next-door neighbour, S.E., who was going to the same house as us, then we encountered four armed bandits. One of them had red-yellow skin, the other one was black and other two, who walked behind, had chestnut hair. They asked us: "Where are you going?" They entered a courtyard in front of a house. The owner of the house, Dragica Erstić (the wife of Dušan) asked them: "What do you want?" But they said: "Get into the house, all of you!" Dragica replied: "The house and all this in front of the house is mine." Then they fired three shots and without a word killed her in her courtyard. The others entered the house. As soon as we entered, they started to kill us with single shots. The entire time my 18 year old daughter was close to me and due to her body (she was killed before) falling over me, I, thank God, was only wounded. I was wounded in the right arm and shoulder, back side and loins. I was unconsciousness until midnight. When I woke up, I was fighting for my life, the pain was very great. I heard the cries of help from the wounded victims but I could not help them because I was covered with blood and I was afraid. One hour after the massacre was committed, I. P. arrived and cried but I did not hear it because I was so afraid that I did not hear anything. After midnight, when I came to my senses, I do not know how, I went to my cousin for help, he lived 2 kilometres away from the place of event. The executed people remained there for the entire night there and nobody approached them. The following day, on February 10, 1993 I returned to my husband. He was not disturbed by anyone and remained in the house for the entire time. On my way home I was falling down all the time and I was fighting for my life until 8 a.m. I was afraid that I would not find my husband alive. On the same day, February 10, 1993, an official commission from Obrovac arrived in order to examine the killed persons. I too was examined by them on the same day and they sent me to the Benkovac hospital where I remained for about 20 days. This would-be "official commission" wanted justice and they questioned the witnesses - J.E., I. and some other people. I came later and they questioned me about the case. When they finished their honoured duty, the corpses were put into nylon bags. After this the commission left. Nobody approached them, except me. They decided that they would bury them on February 11, 1993.

At about 11 a. m. a military truck with Chetniks and some soldiers arrived and they picked up the corpses. At about 1 p.m. they moved towards the local cemetery. The close relatives of the killed went, but there were also many others who went on their own risk. There were also some Orthodox people from the neighbouring villages. The entire burial, of putting the killed Croats into their family graves, was performed by J.P.

Ten days later some members of UNPROFOR arrived and asked what had happened to the ERSTIĆ family? What was the news, did someone survive it? The members of UNPROFOR picked up survivors and drove them to the village of RADALJICE, in the community of Benkovac. There they were watching them. I stayed with my husband for 10 days. A civilian physician with a nurse arrived and after he examined me, he sent me to the Knin hospital where I stayed for 10 days. They drove me back to RADALJICE. We stayed there until March 16 and through Knin and Otočac we reached Zadar and so we were saved from the Chetnik knife.

All the provocations, agitations and maltreatments started after the election of dr. Tuđman when in Medvida was a branch of the HDZ (Croatian Democratic Union) was founded. There no longer any peace.

Nine members in total of the ERSTIĆ family were killed.

By signing each page of the statement I confirm the authenticity of the above written.

In Zadar, March 31, 1993